



United States Department of Agriculture

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# **Timing of Introduction of Complementary Foods and Beverages and Growth, Size, and Body Composition: A Systematic Review**

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The Pregnancy and Birth to 24 Months Project

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Nutrition Evidence Systematic Review  
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Food and Nutrition Service  
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This systematic review was conducted for the Pregnancy and Birth to 24 Months Project (P/B-24 Project) by the Nutrition Evidence Systematic Review (NESR) team at the Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA. All systematic reviews from the P/B-24 Project are available on the NESR website: <https://nesr.usda.gov>.

Conclusion statements drawn as part of this systematic review describes the state of science related to the specific question examined. Conclusion statements do not draw implications, nor should they be interpreted to be dietary guidance.

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**Related citations:**

- **P/B-24 Project overview:** Stoody EE, Spahn JM, Casavale KO. The Pregnancy and Birth to 24 Months Project: a series of systematic reviews on diet and health. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2019;109(7):685S-697S. [doi: 10.1093/ajcn/nqy372](https://doi.org/10.1093/ajcn/nqy372)
- **P/B-24 systematic review methodology:** Obbagy JE, Spahn JS, Psota TL, Spill MK, Dreifelbis C, Gungor DE, Nadaud PN, Raghavan R, Callahan EH, English LK, Kingshipp BJ, Lapergola CC, Shapiro MJ, Stoody EE. Systematic review methodology used in the Pregnancy and Birth to 24 Months Project. *Am J Clin Nutr* 2019;109(7):698S–704S. [doi: 10.1093/ajcn/nqy226](https://doi.org/10.1093/ajcn/nqy226)
- **Related systematic reviews from the P/B-24 Project:** English LK, Obbagy JO, Wong YP, Butte

NF, Dewey KG, Fox MK, Greer FR, Krebs NK, Scanlon KS, Stookey EE. Types and amounts of complementary foods and beverages consumed and growth, size, and body composition: a systematic review. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2019;109(7):956S–77S. doi: [10.1093/ajcn/nqy281](https://doi.org/10.1093/ajcn/nqy281).

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All TEC and NESR team members, Project leads, and FEG-TEC liaisons participated in establishing the research questions, analytic framework, and study inclusion and exclusion criteria. LKE, JEO, YWP, TLP, PN, KJ, and NT developed and conducted the literature search, screened search results, and identified studies for inclusion. LKE and JEO extracted data and assessed risk of bias for included studies. NFC, KGD, DMF, MKF, FRG, NFK, and KSS reviewed and provided substantive feedback on all systematic review materials, including the synthesis of the body of evidence, conclusion statement, and grade of the strength of the evidence. LKE prepared this

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## INTRODUCTION

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This document describes a systematic review conducted to answer the following question: What is the relationship between timing of introduction of complementary foods and beverages and growth, size, and body composition?. This systematic review was conducted as part of the Pregnancy and Birth to 24 Months Project (P/B-24 Project) by USDA's Nutrition Evidence Systematic Review (NESR).

The purpose of the P/B-24 Project was to conduct a series of systematic reviews on diet and health for women who are pregnant and for infants and toddlers from birth to 24 months of age. This project was a joint initiative led by USDA and HHS, and USDA's NESR carried out all of the systematic reviews. A Federal Expert Group (FEG), a broadly representative group of Federal researchers and program leaders, also provided input throughout the P/B-24 Project. More information about the P/B-24 Project has been published<sup>ii</sup> and is available on the NESR website: <https://nesr.usda.gov/project-specific-overview-pb-24-0>

NESR, formerly the Nutrition Evidence Library (NEL), specializes in conducting food- and nutrition-related systematic reviews using a rigorous, protocol-driven methodology. To conduct each P/B-24 systematic review, NESR's staff worked with a Technical Expert Collaborative (TEC), which is a group of 7-8 leading subject matter experts.

NESR's systematic review methodology involves developing and prioritizing systematic review questions, searching for and selecting studies, extracting and assessing the risk of bias of data from each included study, synthesizing the evidence, developing a conclusion statement, grading the evidence underlying the conclusion statement, and recommending future research. A detailed description of the methodology used in conducting systematic reviews for the P/B-24 Project has been published<sup>iii</sup> and is available on the NESR website: <https://nesr.usda.gov/pb-24-project-methodology-0>. In addition, starting on page 49, this document includes details about the methodology as it was applied to the systematic review described herein. An [analytic framework](#) that illustrates the overall scope of the question, including the population, the interventions and/or exposures, comparators, and outcomes of interest, is found on page 49. In addition, the [literature search plan](#) that was used to identify studies included in this systematic review is found on page 50.

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<sup>ii</sup> Stoodt EE, Spahn JM, Cassavale KO. The Pregnancy and Birth to 24 Months Project: a series of systematic reviews on diet and health. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2019;109(7):685S-697S. [doi:10.1093/ajcn/nqy372](https://doi.org/10.1093/ajcn/nqy372)

<sup>iii</sup> Obbagy JE, Spahn JS, Psota TL, Spill MK, Dreibelbis C, Gungor DE, Nadaud PN, Raghavan R, Callahan EH, English LK, Kingshipp BJ, Lapergola CC, Shapiro MJ, Stoodt EE. Systematic review methodology used in the Pregnancy and Birth to 24 Months Project. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2019;109(7):698S-704S. [doi: 10.1093/ajcn/nqy226](https://doi.org/10.1093/ajcn/nqy226)

## List of abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full name
BF	Breast fed
BMIZ	Body mass index z-score
CF	Complementary feeding
CFB	Complementary food and beverage
DXA	Dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry
EBF	Exclusively breast-fed
EFF	Exclusively formula fed
FEG	Federal expert group
FF	Formula fed
FFM	Fat-free mass
FM	Fat mass
FMZ	Fat mass z-score
HAZ	Height-for-age z-score
HC	Head circumference
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services
LAZ	Length-for-age z-score
NEL	Nutrition Evidence Library
NESR	Nutrition Evidence Systematic Review
NIH	National Institutes of Health
P/B-24	Pregnancy and Birth to 24 Months Project
RCT	Randomized controlled trial
TEC	Technical Expert Collaborative
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
WAZ	Weight-for-age z score
WC	Waist circumference
WHZ	Weight-for-height z score
WLZ	Weight-for-length z score



# WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TIMING OF INTRODUCTION OF COMPLEMENTARY FOODS AND BEVERAGES AND GROWTH, SIZE, AND BODY COMPOSITION?

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## PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY

### What is the question?

- The question is: What is the relationship between the timing of introduction of complementary foods and beverages (CFB) and growth, size, and body composition?

### What is the answer to the question?

- Moderate evidence suggests that first introduction of any CFB between 4-5mo compared to approximately 6mo of age is not associated with weight status, body composition, body circumferences, weight, or length among generally healthy, full-term infants.
- Limited evidence suggests that introducing CFB before 4mo of age may be associated with higher odds of overweight/obesity.
- There is not enough evidence to determine the relationship between introduction of CFB at 7mo of age or older on growth, size, or body composition.

### Why was this question asked?

- This important public health question was identified and prioritized as part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Department of Health and Human Services Pregnancy and Birth to 24 Months Project.

### How was this question answered?

- A team of Nutrition Evidence Systematic Review staff conducted a systematic review in collaboration with a group of experts called a Technical Expert Collaborative

### What is the population of interest?

- Generally healthy infants and toddlers who were fed complementary foods and beverages from ages 0-24mo and had growth, size, and/or body composition outcomes measured across the lifespan

### What evidence was found?

- Eighty-one articles examined the association between timing of introduction of CFB, as early as 1mo and as late as 12mo of age, and growth, size, and/or body composition outcomes across the lifespan
- In the majority of studies, no significant associations were reported. A limited number of observational studies suggested that CFB introduction before age 4mo was associated with higher odds of overweight/obesity. No conclusion was drawn regarding the introduction of CFB at 7mo or older.
- Limitations in the evidence included inconsistency among all studies and a preponderance of null findings

**How up-to-date is this review?**

- This review includes literature from 01/1980 to 07/2016

# TECHNICAL ABSTRACT

## Background

- Systematic reviews were conducted as part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Department of Health and Human Services Pregnancy and Birth to 24 Months Project.
- The goal of this systematic review was to examine the following question: What is the relationship between timing of introduction of complementary foods and beverages (CFB) and growth, size, and body composition?
- Complementary feeding is the process that starts when human milk or infant formula is complemented by other foods and beverages, beginning during infancy and typically continuing to 24 months of age. CFB were defined as foods and/or beverages other than human milk or infant formula (liquids, semisolids, and solids) provided to an infant or young child to provide nutrients and energy.

## Conclusion Statement and Grades

- Moderate evidence suggests that first introduction of any complementary food or beverage (CFB) between 4-5 months compared to approximately 6 months of age is not associated with weight status, body composition, body circumferences, weight, or length among generally healthy, full-term infants.  
**Grade: Moderate**
- Limited evidence suggests that introducing CFB before 4 months of age may be associated with higher odds of overweight/obesity. **Grade: Limited**
- There is not enough evidence to determine the relationship between introduction of CFB at 7 months of age or older on growth, size, or body composition. **Grade: Grade Not Assignable**

## Methods

- This systematic review was conducted by a team of staff from the Nutrition Evidence Library in collaboration with a Technical Expert Collaborative.
- Literature search was conducted using 4 databases (PubMed, Cochrane, Embase, and CINAHL) to identify articles that evaluated the intervention or exposure of timing of CFB introduction and the outcomes of developmental milestones. A manual search was conducted to identify articles that may not have been included in the electronic databases searched. Articles were screened by two analysts? independently for inclusion based on pre-determined criteria.
- Data extraction and risk of bias assessment were conducted for each included study, and both were checked for accuracy. The body of evidence was qualitatively synthesized to inform development of a conclusion statement(s), and the strength of evidence was graded using pre-established criteria evaluating the body of evidence on risk of bias, adequacy, consistency, impact, and generalizability.

## Summary of Evidence

- This review includes 81 articles that examined the association between timing of introduction of CFB and growth, size, and/or body composition across the

lifespan

- Timing of CFB introduction is the age at which any or specific types of CFB were first consumed and was examined as early as 1 month and as late as 12 months of age.
- Timing of CFB introduction was not associated with growth, size, body composition, and/or weight status in the majority of included studies. A limited number of observational studies suggested that CFB introduction before 4 months of age was associated with higher odds of overweight/obesity.
- Given the normal variation in healthy child growth patterns, caution should be used when interpreting results between timing, types and/or amounts of CFB and outcomes for individuals based on findings at the population level.

## **FULL REVIEW**

### **Systematic review question**

What is the relationship between timing of introduction of complementary foods and beverages and growth, size, and body composition?

### **Conclusion statement**

Moderate evidence suggests that first introduction of any complementary food or beverage (CFB) between 4-5 months compared to approximately 6 months of age is not associated with weight status, body composition, body circumferences, weight, or length among generally healthy, full-term infants.

Limited evidence suggests that introducing CFB before 4 months of age may be associated with higher odds of overweight/obesity.

There is not enough evidence to determine the relationship between introduction of CFB at 7 months of age or older on growth, size, or body composition.

### **Grades**

Moderate– Introduction of CFB between 4-5 compared to 6 months of age

Limited – Introduction of CFB before 4 months of age

Grade Not Assignable – Introduction of CFB at 7 months of age or older

### **Summary**

- This review includes 81 articles that examined the association between timing of complementary foods and beverages (CFB) introduction and growth, size, and/or body composition from birth through adulthood, including:
  - Five articles from two randomized controlled trials (RCTs)
  - 71 prospective cohort studies
  - One retrospective cohort study
  - One nested case-control study
  - Three case-control studies
- Timing of CFB introduction is the age at which any or specific types of CFB were first consumed and was examined as early as 1 month and as late as 12 months of age. Studies that examined the introduction of specific types or amounts of CFB are addressed in a separate review.
- Outcomes included weight, length/height, body circumferences (e.g., head, waist, chest, arm, thigh), adiposity (e.g., fat mass, skinfold thickness), weight-to-height ratio (e.g., body mass index (BMI), weight-for-length Z-score (WLZ)), and weight status (e.g., risk of overweight or obesity). Outcomes were assessed at a range of ages from birth to 42y of age at either a single, pre-determined time point or at multiple time points or as continuous variables to capture change over time. Having data both before and after introduction of CFB is very important, as outcomes that do not take into account the infant's initial anthropometric status (before any CFB are introduced) are hard to interpret (e.g., risk of reverse causation)

- Timing of CFB introduction was not associated with growth, size, body composition, and/or weight status in the majority of included studies.
- A limited number of observational studies suggested that CFB introduction before 4 months of age was associated with higher odds of overweight/obesity. However, due to inconsistency in findings and methodological limitations, a stronger conclusion was not made considering the preponderance of studies with null findings.
- There is insufficient evidence to support any association between timing of CFB introduction and body circumferences among generally healthy, full-term infants.
- Given the normal variation in healthy child growth patterns, caution should be used when interpreting results between timing, types and/or amounts of CFB and outcomes for individuals based on findings at the population level.
- Many studies examined the relationship between timing of CFB introduction and only one outcome, primarily weight, which, without information about other aspects of growth (i.e., length/height, or weight for length/height), provided limited information towards understanding how timing of CFB introduction may impact overall growth patterns. Therefore, studies that examined multiple outcomes, including outcomes that could be used to determine whether growth was healthy or unhealthy (e.g., risk of obesity, fat mass) were weighted more heavily in drawing conclusions from the body of evidence.
- Additional factors, which may mediate or moderate the relationship between the time at which CFB are introduced and growth, size, body composition, and/or weight status outcomes need to be considered including:
  - Specific types and/or amounts of CFB introduced
  - Early infant milk feeding practices (human milk, formula, and/or mixed)
  - Parental feeding styles and the rationale for determining when to initiate CFB (e.g., perceived infant readiness, infant growth or size, fear of inadequate milk supply, sleep promotion, responsive feeding, infant food neophobia/acceptance)
  - Early infant growth patterns
  - Cultural preference related to parental history and/or feeding practices

## Description of the evidence

This systematic review includes 81 articles that examined the association between the timing of introduction to CFB and growth, size, body composition, and/or weight status from infancy through adulthood. These articles include two RCTs, which are reported in five articles (1-5); 71 prospective cohort studies (6-76), one retrospective cohort study (77), one nested case-control study (78), and three case-control studies (79-81) ([Supplemental Table S1](#)). Multiple articles reported data from the same cohort but presented different types of outcomes, the same outcomes at different ages, or

different outcomes at different ages (21, 24, 25, 30, 49, 51, 56, 60) (9, 18, 19, 63) (10, 12, 28, 31, 32, 35, 57).

### **Description of subject characteristics**

Sixty-eight articles were from studies conducted in countries categorized as “very high” according to the Human Development Index, which is a composite measure of life expectancy, education, and standards of living of countries (82): Australia (8, 29, 62, 68); Canada (27, 42-45, 58, 75); Denmark (11, 20, 61); Finland (50, 59); Germany (40); Iceland (2-5, 38); Ireland (48); Israel (22); Norway (46); Netherlands (9, 17-19, 63); U.K. (10, 21, 31-33, 35, 39, 49, 56, 57, 60, 66, 67, 70); Scotland (6, 26); U.S. (1, 7, 12-14, 16, 23-25, 28, 30, 36, 37, 47, 51, 53, 55, 71, 73, 74, 77, 79). Nine studies were conducted in countries categorized as “high” according to the Human Development Index (82): Brazil (52, 64); China (76, 80, 81); Iran (41); Mexico (15, 65); Peru (54).

Four multi-site studies were conducted with participants from various countries. Two studies included participants from European countries all categorized as “very high” (34, 78), one study included participants from three countries categorized as “very high” or “high” (72), and one study combined participants from seven countries categorized as “very high”, “high”, “medium”, and “low” (69).

The majority of studies included participants who were healthy, full-term infants, though six prospective cohort studies did not report gestational age and birthweight of participants (15, 21, 62, 66, 70, 71). Almost all studies enrolled both girls and boys (~43-55% female), with one study including only girls (23).

Studies varied in terms of whether infants were fed human milk, infant formula, or both. Most studies included participants regardless of their feeding method and adjusted for feeding method in the analyses. However, several studies only included infants who were either exclusively breastfed (EBF) (2-5, 41, 55, 64, 69) or exclusively formula-fed (EFF) (1, 33, 73, 74). In a few studies, the relationship between timing of CFB introduction and growth, size, and/or body composition was analyzed separately in BF and FF infants (14, 36, 37).

### **Description of timing of introduction of complementary foods and beverages**

Timing of CFB introduction was determined as the age at which CFB was first introduced. However, studies differed in terms of whether timing was analyzed categorically or continuously, what categories of ages were evaluated and compared, and the methods used for determining age of CFB introduction, whether prospectively or retrospectively. For specific time points of exposures, see Supplemental Table 1.

One RCT (reported in 4 articles) randomized EBF infants to either receive CFB starting at 4 mo of age or remain EBF from 4 until 6 mo of age (2-5). The second RCT randomized EFF infants to either receive CFB at age 16 wk, or remain EFF from 16 to 26 wk of age (1). Sixty-three observational studies analyzed age of CFB introduction categorically, often considering introduction of CFB before 4 mo as the earliest category and at/after 6mo as the latest category. Categories of timing of CFB introduction varied across studies, which examined two (e.g., <4 mo vs. at/after 4 mo of age), three (e.g., <2 vs. 3-5 vs. >6 mo), or four (1-8 vs. 9-16 vs. 17-24 vs. 25-32 wk) comparison groups. Few articles attempted to achieve greater specificity in terms of timing by further differentiating categories of CFB introduction within the 4-6 mo

timeframe. There were a number of studies that examined more extreme categories of introducing CFB as early as  $\leq 1$  mo (44, 56) or  $\leq 2$  mo (49, 68, 69, 75) to as late as at/after 12 mo of age (15). Timing of CFB introduction was analyzed continuously in 16 studies (7, 14, 16, 24, 25, 42, 43, 45, 50, 61, 62, 65, 66, 72-74). Several studies examined timing of CFB introduction both continuously and categorically (24, 34, 36, 45, 50, 61). Two studies did not clearly define their methods for analyzing timing of CFB introduction (27, 57).

### **Description of growth, size, and body composition outcomes**

Outcomes that were reported in relation to timing of CFB introduction ranged in age from birth to 42 y (see Supplemental Table S1). As defined by the included studies, outcomes relevant to 'growth' were examined over multiple time-points or intervals between baseline and endpoint of the study, outcomes relevant to 'size' were examined as an absolute measurement at one point in time, and 'body composition' outcomes were examined via proxies or indices, both across time and at single time points. Studies varied in how they accounted for growth beyond absolute size, such as by measuring outcomes at or across multiple time points, adjusting for baseline weight or earlier growth, or adjusting for birth weight. Therefore, the outcomes are discussed in the following categories, utilized herein to describe the included evidence: weight status, body composition (including adiposity, weight relative to length/height, and waist circumference (WC)); weight and length or height measures; and body circumferences (except waist).

#### ***Weight status***

Twenty-eight articles in this SR (1 RCT; 27 from observational studies) reported weight status (2, 6, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 25, 30, 35, 37, 45, 48, 50-53, 56, 58, 61, 62, 68, 76-81). The relationships between timing of introduction of CFB and incidence of malnutrition, growth faltering, stunting, or wasting were not reported by studies included in this SR. The majority of studies published after 2007 used either BMI and/or BMI z-score (BMIZ) to classify participants older than 2 y of age as having obesity if  $\geq 95^{\text{th}}$  percentile or overweight if  $\geq 85^{\text{th}}$  percentile. However, cut-points varied slightly across studies according to international standard references at the time the studies were conducted or respective country growth references (e.g., Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), International Obesity Task Force (IOTF), World Health Organization (WHO), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)). One study classified obesity as a weight-for-age at or above the 98<sup>th</sup> percentile and computed models based on child BMI to compare with WHO, CDC, and IOTF cut-offs (30). In another study, risk of overweight was defined as having a BMI  $\geq 85^{\text{th}}$  percentile, and obesity was defined as having a combination of BMI  $\geq 85^{\text{th}}$  percentile and skinfolds (triceps and subscapular)  $\geq 90^{\text{th}}$  percentile (52).

#### ***Body composition***

**Adiposity.** Nineteen articles in this SR (2 from RCTs; 17 from observational studies) assessed adiposity with measures of fat mass (FM) or skinfold thickness (1, 5, 7, 9, 10, 14, 17-20, 37, 42, 43, 49, 57, 67, 70, 75, 77). A wide variety of assessment methods were used including dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA) to derive FM, FM index (FMI), lean mass, lean mass index, and/or body fat percentage (18, 49, 57, 77), total body water to obtain FM, fat free mass (FFM), and/or lean mass (5, 67), bioelectrical impedance analysis (BIA) to calculate body fat percentage (70), or a combination of DXA, total body water, and/or bioelectrical impedance to calculate FM,



FFM, FMI, FFMI, FM z-score (FMZ), or FFM z-score (FFMZ) (14, 17, 20). One article used DXA to examine android-gynoid fat ratio (18). Studies used calipers by trained staff to measure triceps and subscapular (1, 9, 10, 14, 19, 67), suprailiac (1, 9, 19), bicep (19), and/or flank and quadriceps skinfold thicknesses (14), or sum of skinfold thicknesses (7, 9, 19, 37, 42, 43, 75).

*Weight-to-height.* Twenty-nine articles in this SR (2 from RCTs; 27 from observational studies) assessed weight-to-height indices such as BMI and weight-for-length z-score (WLZ) (2, 5, 7, 17, 18, 21, 23, 29, 33, 34, 36-38, 42-44, 46, 55, 57, 60, 61, 63, 64, 68, 70-72, 76, 77), with most using standard procedures to calculate BMI or WLZ from measurements. Several studies used weight and length or height from parent-report (76), clinical/school records (46, 81), a combination of measurements and self-report (61), or did not describe how they obtained weight and length/height (6).

*Waist circumference (WC)/abdominal fat.* Five articles in this SR (1 RCT; 4 from observational studies) assessed abdominal fat and/or WC via ultrasound (18), measured WC (1, 15), self-reported WC (61), or by calculating a sum of core skinfold thickness measures to reflect 'central FM' (19).

### ***Weight and length or height***

Twenty-eight articles in this SR (4 from RCTs; 24 from observational studies) examined both weight and length or height outcomes (1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 13, 14, 16, 17, 23, 33, 34, 36-38, 41, 44, 47, 55, 59, 64, 65, 67, 69-72). The majority of studies reported growth and/or size outcomes at or in the first year of life, though five studies reported growth and/or size during the second year of life and four studies reported growth and/or size during childhood, between 2-7 y of age. Most studies reported using standard procedures to obtain weight and height, (e.g., duplicate measures from calibrated scales/stadiometers). However, a few studies obtained weight and/or length via parent-report (11, 28, 39), clinical/school records (47, 71), unstandardized methods (44), or did not describe their methods (1, 33). Nine studies calculated weight-for-age z scores (WAZ) and eight studies calculated height/length-for-age z-scores (HAZ/LAZ) from either measured or reported weight and/or length.

### ***Head, arm, and thigh circumference***

Eight studies reported head circumference growth and/or size (1-5, 13, 14, 44). Two of these studies also reported chest, arm, and thigh circumferences (1, 14). Most studies reported using standard procedures to obtain head, arm, or thigh circumferences (e.g., non-stretchable tape and standard landmarks).

## **Evidence synthesis**

Results from the included studies, organized by study design and similar outcomes, are described in [Table 1](#).

### **Randomized controlled trials**

In the RCTs, EBF infants (2-5) were randomized to start receiving CFB at 4 vs. 6 mo of age or EFF infants were randomized to start receiving CFB at 16 wk vs. 26 wk of age (1). Results from four articles (one RCT) among BF infants (2-5) showed no significant associations between timing of CFB and weight, length, or HC at 6 mo (5), from 0-6 mo, or from 4-6 mo (4); BMI, lean mass, or FM at 6 mo (5); WAZ/LAZ at 18 mo or change in WAZ/LAZ from 29-38 mo (2); weight status at 18 mo or from 29-38 mo (2); HC z-score at 6 mo (5), HC or HC-for-age at 18 mo (2, 3); or change in HC from 29-38

mo (2).

In the trial with EFF infants, timing of CFB was examined relative to weight, length, adiposity, and body circumference outcomes (1). Significant findings were reported for isolated outcomes. The EFF infants who were introduced to CFB at 16 wk vs. 16-26 wk had increased change in length and a smaller decrease in suprailiac skinfold thickness from 16-26 wk of age. Notably, groups significantly differed in length by 1 cm at baseline and these differences were not clearly accounted for so the results should be interpreted with caution. Further, the groups did not differ in length at 26 wk. No other significant differences between groups were found in relation to additional outcomes including total skinfold thickness, or change in skinfold thickness, weight, or body circumferences from 16-26 wk of age. Several of these articles from both RCTs (1, 4, 5) reported outcomes at or before 26 wk of age, when accumulation of FM is maximal relative to body weight, which makes drawing a stronger conclusion on inadequate or excessive growth, size, body composition, and/or weight status difficult without additional follow-up measurements over time.

## **Observational studies**

### ***Weight status***

Twenty-seven articles from observational studies examined the relationship between timing of CFB introduction and weight status outcomes (6, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 25, 30, 35, 37, 45, 48, 50-53, 56, 58, 61, 62, 68, 76-81). About half of these 27 articles reported no association between timing of CFB introduction and weight status, such that early introduction of CFB (primarily <4 mo of age) was not significantly associated with risk of overweight/obesity during childhood, at ages ranging between 2-14 y (12, 15, 18, 21, 25, 45, 48, 50, 52, 56, 58, 77, 78, 80). The remaining articles reported significant negative associations between timing of CFB and weight status, such that earlier introduction of CFB (primarily <4 mo of age although timing of CFB varied) was significantly associated with higher weight status (6, 30, 35, 37, 51, 53, 61, 62, 68, 76, 79, 81). Higher odds of overweight/obesity in those with earlier CFB introduction were observed primarily in childhood between 2-6 y of age (range of 2-42 y). Several articles included multiple comparison groups (e.g., introduction of CFB <4, 4-6, >6 mo) but found higher odds of overweight/obesity only for those who were in the earliest CFB introduction group (6, 37, 51, 68, 76, 81). A few of these articles reported additional null associations, depending on the comparison group and/or age of outcome.

Across the studies that examined timing of CFB introduction relative to weight status outcomes, there was heterogeneity in categories of CFB introduction, age of outcome assessment (ranging from 2-42 y), methods used for outcome assessment (e.g., weight status derived from either measured vs. reported weight and height), and variable cut-offs for either BMI or BMIZ to classify obesity and/or overweight separately or as one “above healthy” category of weight status. Two studies examined age of introduction of sugar-sweetened beverages (SSBs) specifically rather than CFB generally (15, 53). Very few of these studies examined other outcomes that may help with interpretation of weight status. For instance, some articles that examined timing of introduction of CFB in relation to weight status also examined timing of CFB in relation to adiposity (18, 37, 77) and/or weight (37, 48, 50). Most of those studies found no significant association between timing of CFB and adiposity during childhood (3-6 y) or weight during the first 3 y of life. One study showed no significant association between

timing of CFB introduction (either <4, <5, or <6 vs. ≥6 mo) and weight status at 3 y but observed increased weight at 9 mo (48). Huh et al. reported that earlier CFB introduction (<4 vs. 4-5 mo but not vs. ≥6 mo) in FF infants was associated with increased weight status, BMI, BMIZ, and WAZ at 3 y but results in BF infants were null (37). In either BF or FF infants in that study, timing of CFB was not significantly associated with skinfold thickness at 3 y. Studies also varied in adjusting the results for potentially key confounding factors. For example, all of the articles that reported significant results adjusted for birth weight, but did not consistently adjust for baseline weight, length or other measures of weight status. In addition, studies varied in the magnitude of observed effects.

### **Body composition**

*Adiposity.* Seventeen observational studies examined the relationship between timing of CFB introduction and adiposity outcomes (7, 9, 10, 14, 17-20, 37, 42, 43, 49, 57, 67, 70, 75, 77), of which the majority reported no significant association between timing of CFB introduction and adiposity outcomes in childhood (age ranges between 6 mo and 15 y), including skinfold thickness, FM and FFM, lean mass and FM indices, and percentage of body fat (7, 9, 10, 14, 18, 20, 37, 43, 49, 57, 67, 75, 77). Three of the 17 articles reported significant negative associations between timing of CFB and either skinfold thickness at 12 mo (52) or 24 mo (19), or body fat percentage at 7 y (70). One of the 17 articles also reported a negative association such that later CFB introduction > 6 mo vs. < 4 mo was associated with lower FMZ at 5-6y, but this was no longer significant in the final model (17). These studies (4 of 17) found no significant associations when examining other related outcomes (e.g., peripheral FM at 24 mo (19), BMI at 12 mo (42), FFMI at 5-6 y (17)).

Across the studies that assessed timing of CFB relative to adiposity, a number of studies had substantial methodological limitations such as limited generalizability from using a very early (<4 mo) age of introduction of CFB (10, 17, 49, 57, 67, 70, 75, 77). Several examined additional outcomes including weight-to-height ratios, weight, length, and/or central adiposity (7, 10, 14, 17, 19, 37, 43, 57, 67, 70, 77). Of those studies that examined additional outcomes, the results for adiposity outcomes were primarily null and inconsistent in terms of direction and/or sub-group of interest (e.g., FF vs. BF) relative to other outcomes. For example, Agras et al. (7) found that age of (continuous) introduction of CFB was not significantly associated with skinfold thickness at any age but delayed introduction was positively associated with BMI at 1, 2, and 3 y of age. However, it is unclear what drove those findings with respect to BMI because Agras et al. (7) did not report weight or height outcomes. Baird et al. (10) found null results between timing of CFB (<3, at 3, at 4 vs. ≥5 mo) and both adiposity and weight from birth-6 mo of age, but found that timing of CFB (at 3 vs. ≥5 mo) was associated with gain in length from birth-6 mo of age.

There was substantial variation in the adiposity outcomes reported and corresponding assessment methods. For example, some studies reported FM measured via DXA or bioelectrical impedance while others reported FM via sum of skinfold thickness. There were no clear patterns observed based on the technique used to measure of adiposity.

*Weight-to-height.* Twenty-seven articles from observational studies examined the relationship between timing of CFB introduction and weight-to-height outcomes (7, 17, 18, 21, 23, 29, 33, 34, 36-38, 42-44, 46, 55, 57, 60, 61, 63, 64, 68, 70-72, 76, 77) of which the majority reported no significant associations between timing of CFB

introduction and BMI or BMIZ mostly in early childhood (ages ranged between 2 and 11.5 y) .

Several of the 27 observational studies reported inconsistent but significant associations between timing of CFB and/or BMI, BMIZ, or WLZ. Most of the significant findings identified were negative associations, with earlier CFB introduction significantly associated with higher BMI at 3 y (37), 4-5 y (76), and 42 y (61), BMIZ at 36 mo (34), and WLZ from 9-12 mo (44). However, across the studies with significant findings, a few positive, null, and/or mixed associations were also reported (7, 33, 34, 55). See Table 2 for more details. Grote et al. (33) reported a significant negative association between timing of CFB introduction ( $\leq 13$  vs.  $\geq 22$  wk) and BMI-for-age trajectory until 24 mo but found no relationship relative to WLZ, BMI or BMIZ at 24 mo of age. Notably, most of the studies with significant associations (in either direction) compared groups of CFB introduction at either very early ages such as  $<4$  mo relative to various other ages, or at unique ages such as 9 mo. In addition, most of the studies with any significant finding relative to weight-to-height indices had substantial methodological limitations such as limited generalizability and potential for reverse causality.

Across the studies that examined timing of introduction of CFB and weight-to-height, there was heterogeneity in terms of: age of outcome assessment (6 mo - 42 y), methods used for outcome assessment (e.g., BMI obtained from measured vs. self-reported weight and height), type of CFB introduced (e.g., juice, cereal, meat), and which potential key confounders were adjusted for in analyses. For instance, the majority adjusted for birth weight in addition to baseline anthropometric values but did not account for maternal age, gestational age, or parental weight/height status in analyses. Most of the studies that examined weight-to-height indices examined additional outcomes, such as adiposity, weight, and/or length or height. Many, but not all, of those studies examined weight and/or length or height outcomes at the same or different ages. Results were inconsistent across these studies for weight-to-height indices and weight. For example, although Grote et al. (33) found no significant association of timing of introduction of CFB with respect to BMI, WLZ, or BMIZ at 24 mo, those who were introduced to CFB earlier vs. later ( $\leq 13$  vs. 14–17 wk) or later vs. earlier (18–21 vs. 14-17 wk) had higher WAZ at 24 mo of age. Haschke et al. (34) reported that EBF infants introduced to CFB  $<4$  mo compared to those who remained EBF from 4-6 mo had lower BMIZ at each mo assessed (between 1 and 36 mo of age), and lower WAZ at 3, 4, 5, and 6 mo of age, but no significant association with WAZ at younger or older ages (birth, 1, 2, 9, 12, 18, 24, 30, or 36 mo). In addition, Haschke also reported significant positive correlations between age of CFB introduction and BMI gain ( $\text{kg/m}^2/\text{y}$ ) and weight gain ( $\text{g}/\text{mo}$ ) from 1-12 mo, but these associations were not significant for outcomes from 1-24 mo or 1-36 mo of age. A few studies examined only weight-to-height (length) indices, all of which had null findings (29, 46, 60, 63).

Because weight-to-height indices are a proxy for body composition, results from these studies are difficult to interpret given the different implications of body composition early in infancy/childhood as opposed to adulthood. Weight-to-height indices, such as BMI, alone provide limited information without other relevant outcomes (e.g., weight status, adiposity, weight and length outcomes).

*Waist circumference (WC)/Abdominal fat.* Four observational articles examined the

relationship between timing of CFB introduction and central adiposity outcomes (15, 18, 19, 61), of which three reported no significant associations with WC at 24 mo or 42 y, or abdominal fat at 6 y or 8-14 y (15, 18, 19, 61). Earlier CFB introduction, measured continuously, was associated with increased WC at 42 y in one study (61). However, that study had substantial methodological limitations including use of non-standardized anthropometric assessments (e.g., self-report) and limited generalizability due to CFB practices at the time of original data collection (e.g., 1959-1960). Two of the studies had very long time to follow-up at 8-14 y and 42 y and reported associations for categories of age of CFB introduction at very early (<4 mo) or very late (<12 mo) ages (15, 61). Across these four observational studies, there was variability in terms of methods used to measure central adiposity, age of outcome assessment and methodological limitations.

### **Weight and length/height**

Twenty-four articles from observational studies examined the relationship between timing of CFB introduction and both weight and length or height outcomes (8, 10, 13, 14, 16, 17, 23, 33, 34, 36-38, 41, 44, 47, 55, 59, 64, 65, 67, 69-72), of which the majority (16 studies) reported at least one significant association with weight and/or length (8, 10, 13, 16, 17, 33, 34, 36-38, 44, 55, 59, 65, 69, 70) and eight reported null findings for both weight and length (14, 23, 41, 47, 64, 67, 71, 72). Of the articles that found significant relationships, the direction of findings was inconsistent. In eight of the 24 studies, there were no significant associations between timing of CFB relative to length/height (13, 16, 36, 37, 39, 55, 65, 70), but either positive (13, 55) or negative associations relative to weight (36, 37, 39, 65, 70). Several observational studies found negative associations between timing of CFB and length/height, such that either earlier introduction of CFB was associated with greater length/height, or later introduction of CFB was associated with shorter length/height (18, 20, 27, 69(8, 17), but found either no significant association with weight (10, 59) or negative associations with weight (8, 17). The studies with mixed findings also varied based on the timing of CFB introduction, age at which outcome was assessed, or the type of CFB introduced.

Across the studies that examined the relationship between timing of introduction of CFB and weight and length/height, most studies also examined the relationship between timing of CFB introduction and at least one other relevant outcome with potential health implications (e.g., obesity, adiposity, weight-to-height indices). Huh et al. examined obesity at age 3 y in addition to weight, length, weight-to-height ratios, and adiposity outcomes (37). As noted in the section on weight status results, all of the significant associations that Huh et al. identified were found in FF infants, and no associations were found in BF infants (when comparing CFB introduction <4 vs. 4-5 mo, or ≥6 vs. 4-5 mo). Other articles also examined adiposity outcomes, in addition to weight and length (10, 14, 17, 67, 70). A few studies shared the same direction of findings for weight and adiposity but the findings across these studies were inconsistent in terms of direction, age of outcome assessment (e.g., weight at 6-12 mo but adiposity at 5-6 y), and specific timing interval for CFB introduction. For example, Wilson et al. (70 (Wilson, 1998 #105) found a negative association between timing of CFB (<15 vs. >15 wk) and weight as well as FM at 7 y, but found no relationship with height at 7 y. deBeer et al. (17) found that timing of CFB (<4 vs. >6 mo) was negatively associated with conditional weight at 6-12 mo, height at 6-12 mo, and FMZ at 5-6 y, but the association with FMZ at 5-6y was no longer significant after fully adjusting models and there were no associations with other outcomes (e.g., BMIZ, FFMZ).

### ***Head, arm, and thigh circumference***

Timing of CFB introduction was not significantly associated with head circumference (HC) in most of the articles in this SR that examined body circumferences (8 articles total: 3 from observational studies discussed here and 5 from 2 RCTs previously discussed). These null findings were observed at various ages, ranging from approximately 6 mo to ~3 y of age, and when HC was examined at a single time point, or when change in HC over time was considered. One observational study (44) reported that introduction of cereal at 3mo of age, but not at 6 or 9 mo, was associated with lower HC from 3-6 mo. Notably, cereals consumed in that study were not representative of infant cereals consumed in the U.S. and only 1.2% of the children were consuming cereals at 3 mo. In addition, that study is limited by the potential for reverse causality and use of unstandardized anthropometric assessments.

Only two studies in this SR, one from an RCT previously discussed and one observational study, examined other circumferences (arm, thigh, and chest); differences between groups were not significant at 26 wk, from 16-26 wk, or between 6-24 mo of age (1, 14). Although these two studies had minimal methodological limitations, they varied in study design and assessment of timing of CFB.

**Table 1. Studies that examined the timing of introduction of complementary oods and beverages and growth, size, and body composition**

Reference, country, analytic sample size	Intervention/ Exposure	Weight Status Results	Body Composition Results	Weight Results	Length or Height Results	Head, Arm, Thigh Circumference Results
<b>Randomized Controlled Trials</b>						
Bainbridge, 1996 (1) U.S. N: 41	CFB at 16wk vs. EFF 16-26wk		Suprailiac skinfold thickness at age 26wk, NSGD; change from age 16-26wk, -0.20mm, SD: 0.80 vs. -0.92mm, SD:1.25, P=0.04. Mid-thigh, triceps, or subscapular skinfold thickness at age 26wk or change from age 16-26wk, NSGD; abdominal circumference at age 26wk or change from age 16-26wk, NSGD; Chest, MUAC, mid-thigh circumference at age 26wk or change from age 16-26wk, NSGD	Weight change at age 26wk or from age 16-26wk, NSGD	Length change at age 26wk, NSGD; change from age 16-26wk, 5.03, SD: 1.05 vs. 3.62, SD:2.72, P=0.05.	HC at age 26wk or change from age 16-26wk, NSGD
Jonsdottir, 2012 (4) Iceland N: 100	CFB at 4mo vs. EBF 4-6mo			Weight gain from age birth-6mo or 4-6mo, NSGD	Length gain from age birth-6mo or 4-6mo, NSGD	HC gain from age birth-6mo or 4-6mo, NSGD
Jonsdottir, 2013 (3) Iceland N: 54-78	CFB at 4mo vs. EBF 4-6mo					HC gain from age birth-18mo, NSGD
Jonsdottir, 2014 (2) Iceland	CFB at 4mo vs. EBF 4-6mo	Overweight, overweight, or obesity at age 18mo,	BMI-for-age at age 18mo, or 29-38mo,	WAZ at age 18mo, or 29-	LAZ at age 18mo, or 29-	HC-for-age at age 18mo, or 29-38mo,

N: 100		or 29-38mo, NSGD	NSGD	38mo, NSGD	38mo, NSGD	NSGD
Wells, 2012 (5) Iceland N: 100	CFB at 4mo vs. EBF 4-6mo		BMI, lean mass, or FM at age 6mo, NSGD	Weight at age 6mo, NSGD	Length at age 6mo, NSGD	HCZ at age 6mo, NSGD
<b>Prospective cohort studies</b>						
Abraham, 2012 (6) Scotland N: 3994	4-5 vs. 0-3mo	Overweight/obesity at age 4y, OR=0.74, 95% CI:0.57, 0.97, P=0.009				
	6-10 vs. 0-3mo	Overweight/obesity at age 4y, OR=0.72, 95% CI: 0.48, 1.09, P=0.009				
Agras, 1990 (7) U.S. N: 54	Continuous, wk		BMI at age 1y: partial $r^2=0.096$ , $P=0.03$ ; BMI at age 2y: partial $r^2=0.129$ , $P=0.02$ ; BMI at age 3y: partial $r^2=0.148$ , $P=0.01$ ; BMI at age 6y: NSA Skinfold thickness at age 1, 2, or 6y, NSA			
Atkins, 2016 (8) Australia N: 423	<6 vs. ≥6mo			Weight at age 20mo: mean difference 0.4kg, 95% CI: 0.1, 0.7, $P=0.006$	Length at age 20mo: mean difference of 0.9cm, 95% CI: 0.2, 1.7, $P=$ 0.010	
Ay, 2008 (9) Netherlands N: 1012	<5 mo or not		Sum skinfold thickness at age 24mo: NSA			
Baird, 2008 (10) U.K. N: 1,740 at 6mo; 1335 at 12mo	<3 vs. ≥5mo		Gain in skinfold thickness from age birth-6mo, or skinfold thickness at age 6mo:	Weight gain from age birth- 6mo or mean weight at 6mo:	Length gain from age birth-6mo or mean length at age 6mo, NSA	



			NSA	NSA		
	at 3 vs. $\geq 5$ mo		Gain in skinfold thickness from age birth-6mo, or skinfold thickness at age 6mo: NSA	Weight gain from age birth-6mo or mean weight at 6mo: NSA	Length gain from age birth-6mo: $\beta=0.21$ , 95% CI: 0.02, 0.39, $P<0.05$ . Mean length at age 6mo: $\beta=0.68$ , 95% CI: 0.27, 1.08, $P<0.05$ .	
	at 4 vs. $\geq 5$ mo		Gain in skinfold thickness from age birth-6mo, or skinfold thickness at age 6mo: NSA	Weight gain from age birth-6mo or mean weight at 6mo: NSA	Length gain from age birth-6mo or mean length at age 6mo, NSA	
Baker, 2004 (11) Denmark N: 3,768	<16 vs. $\geq 16$ wk, BF for <20wk			Weight gain from age birth-1y: $\beta=365.1$ , SE: 82.9, $P<0.0001$		
	<16 vs. $\geq 16$ wk, BF for >20-40wk			Weight gain from age birth-1y, NSA		
Barrera, 2016 (12) U.S. N: 1181	<4, 4- $<6$ , and $\geq 6$ mo	Obesity at age 6y: NSA				
Barton, 2002 (13) U.S. N: 52	<4 vs. $>4$ mo			Weight at age 4-6mo: $263.7 \pm 30.9$ oz. vs. $291.4 \pm 44.8$ oz., $P=0.04$	Length at age 4-6mo: NSA	HC at age 4-6mo: NSA
Butte, 2000 (14) U.S. N: 72	Continuous, among BF or FF infants		Between age 6-24mo: triceps, flank, subscapular, or quadriceps skinfold thickness, NSA; FM, FFM, % FM,	Between age 6-24mo: Weight, NSA	Between age 6-24mo: Length, NSA	Between age 6-24mo: HC, NSA

			NSA; Chest, arm, thigh circumferences, NSA		
Cantoral, 2016 (15) Mexico N: 227	≤12 vs >12mo	Obesity at 8-14y: NSA	Abdominal obesity at age 8-14y, NSA		
Carruth, 2000 (16) U.S. N: 94	Continuous			Rate of weight change from age 12-24mo, NSA	length slope from age 2-8mo, NSA
de Beer, 2015 (17) Netherlands N: 2227	>6 vs. <4mo		At age 5-6y: FMZ $\beta=-0.23$ ; 95%CI: -0.39, -0.08, P=0.004 final model, NSA; FFMZ, NSA; BMIZ, NSA	Conditional weight z-scores from age 6-12mo: $\beta=-0.21$ , 95%CI: -0.38, -0.03, P=NR	Conditional height z-scores from age 6-12mo: $\beta=-0.20$ ; 95%CI: -0.37, -0.02, P=NR; Height z-scores at age 5-6y: $\beta=-0.13$ ; 95%CI: -0.25, -0.01, P=NR
	4-6 vs. <4mo		At age 5-6y, FMZ, NSA; FFMZ, NSA; BMIZ, NSA	Conditional weight z-scores from age 6-12mo: NSA	Conditional height z-scores from age 6-12mo: NSA; Height z-scores at 5-6y: $\beta=-0.13$ ; 95%CI: -0.25, -0.01, P=NR
Durmus, 2012 (19) Netherlands N: 779	<4 vs. >5mo		Peripheral, central, or total FM at ages 6mo or 24mo, NSA		
	4-5 vs. >5mo		Total FM at age 24mo: $\beta=1.46$ , 95% CI: 0.05, 2.88, P=0.08. Peripheral, central, or		

			total FM at age 6mo, peripheral or central FM at age 24mo, NSA		
Durmus, 2014 (18) Netherlands N: 5063	<4, 4-4.9, ≥5mo	Overweight or obesity at age 6y: NSA	Total FM, android- gynoid fat ratio, or BMI at age 6y, NSA; Abdominal fat at age 6y, NSA		
Ejlervskov, 2015 (20) Denmark N: 233	Continuous, mo		FMI or FFMI at age 3y, data NR, NSA		
Fairley, 2015 (21) U.K. N: 987	<17 or ≥ 17wk	Overweight at age 36mo: NSA	BMIZ at age 36mo: NSA		
Fawzi, 1997 (22) Israel N: 351	1mo vs. EBF			Weight at age 2mo: 4753 vs. 5113g, P≤0.05; Weight at age 3mo: NSA	
	2mo vs. EBF			Weight at age 3mo: NSA	
Ferris, 1980 (23) U.S. N: 92	2 or >2mo		Weight/length <sup>2</sup> from age birth-6mo: NSA	Weight from age birth-6mo: NSA	Length from age birth-6mo: NSA
Flores, 2013a (24) U.S. N: 6800	Continuous, mo	Overweight at kindergarten entry: NSA			
	<3.5 vs. ≥3.5mo, not overweight at preschool, overweight at 2y, White, no maternal gestational diabetes	58% vs. ~25.7% prevalence of overweight			
Flores, 2013b	Continuous, mo	Obesity at kindergarten			

(25) U.S. N: 6800	entry: NSA	
Forsyth, 1993 (26) Scotland N: 671 at 4wk; 584 at 8wk; 576 at 13wk; 544 at 26wk; 548 at 52wk; 392 at 104wk	<8 vs. 8-12wk	Weight at ages: 4wk, NSGD; 8wk, NSGD; 13wk, NSGD; 26wk, NSGD; 52wk, NSGD; 104wk, NSGD
	<8 or 8-12 vs. >12wk	Weight at ages: 4wk, 4.273 or 4.234 vs. 4.139 kg, P=0.001; 8wk, 5.11 or 5.087 vs. 4.960kg, P=0.003; 13wk, 6.051 or 5.972 vs. 5.779kg, P=0.006, 26wk, 7.781 or 7.692 vs. 7.418kg, P=0.009; 52wk, NSGD; 104wk, NSGD
Friel, 1985 (27) Canada N: 110	NR	Weight at age 12mo: NSA
Gaffney, 2012 (28) U.S. N: 691	≥6 vs. <4mo	WAZ at age 12mo: $\beta=-0.34$ , P<0.05
	4-6 vs. <4mo	WAZ at age 12mo: NSA
Garden, 2012 (29) Australia N: 370	≤3 or >3mo	BMI trajectory from age birth-11.5y in boys, NSA; in girls, NSA

Gibbs, 2014 (30) U.S. N: 7,880	<4mo vs. not	Obesity at age 24mo: <b>CDC</b> , OR=1.40; 95%CI: 1.14, 1.72, P<0.01; <b>WHO</b> , OR=1.21; 95%CI: 1.04, 1.41, P<0.05; <b>IOTF low</b> , OR=1.21; 95%CI: 1.09, 1.49, P<0.01. <b>IOTF high</b> , OR=1.34; 95%CI: 1.08, 1.65, P<0.01			
Griffiths, 2009 (31) U.K. N: 10,533	<4 vs. ≥4mo			Conditional weight gain from age birth- 3y: $\beta$ =0.07; 95%CI: 0.02, 0.11, P=0.005 but after adjusting for current child height, NSA	
Griffiths, 2010 (32) U.K. N: 11,653	<17.4 vs. ≥17.4wk			Rapid weight gain from age 3-5y: NSA	
Grote, 2011 (33) U.K./EU N: 687, at 24mo	≤13, 14–17, 18–21, and ≥22wk	WLZ, BMI, or BMIZ at age 24mo: NSA; BMI-for-age trajectories until age 24mo, P=0.011	WAZ at age 24mo: ≤13wk 0.40±1.01; 14- 17wk 0.31±0.98; 18- 21wk 0.53±0.82; ≥22wk 0.23±0.91, P=0.027; Weight at age 24mo, NSA; Weight velocity (kg/mo) at age 24mo, NSA;	LAZ at age 24mo: ≤13wk 0.14±1.09; 14- 17wk 0.18±1.01; 18-21wk 0.39±0.97; ≥22wk 0.18±0.93, P=0.049 Length (cm) at age 24mo, NSA; Length velocity (cm/mo) at age 24mo, NSA; Length-for-age	

			Weight-for-age trajectories until age 24mo, P=0.005	trajectories until age 24mo, NSA
Haschke, 2000 (34) Austria, Germany, Spain, France, Greece, U.K., Hungary, Croatia, Italy, Ireland, Portugal, Sweden N: 1,071	CFB <4mo + BF vs. EBF 4-6mo	Mean BMIZ at ages: 1mo, -0.09 vs. 0.38, P<0.05; 2mo, -0.21 vs. 0.35, P<0.05; 3mo, -0.36 vs. 0.23, P<0.05; 4mo, -0.46 vs. 0.10, P<0.05; 5mo, -0.54 vs. 0.12, P<0.05; 6mo, -0.50 vs. 0.10, P<0.05; 9mo, -0.39 vs. 0.05, P<0.05; 12mo, -0.31 vs. 0.05, P<0.05; 18mo, -0.29 vs. -0.02, P<0.05; 30mo, -0.20 vs. 0.15, P<0.05; 36mo, -0.32 vs. 0.18, P<0.05 at birth and 24mo, NSGD	Mean WAZ at ages: 3mo, - 0.18 vs. 0.13, P<0.05; 4mo, - 0.37 vs. -0.04, P<0.05; 5mo, - 0.40 vs. -0.10, P<0.05; 6mo, - 0.44 vs. -0.10, P<0.05; at birth, 1, 2, 9, 12, 18, 24, 30, or 36mo, NSGD	Mean LAZ at ages: 1mo, 0.22 vs. -0.05, P<0.05; 2mo, 0.25 vs. -0.09, P<0.05; 3mo, 0.17 vs. -0.09, P<0.05; 5mo, 0.06 vs. -0.32, P<0.05; 6mo, - 0.05 vs. -0.31, P<0.05; 36mo, 0.03 vs. -0.30, P <0.05; At ages: birth, 9, 12, 18, 24, or 30mo, NSA
	Continuous, mo	BMI gain (kg/m <sup>2</sup> /y) from ages: 1-12mo, t=3.2, P=0.002; 1- 24mo, NSA; 1-36mo, NSA	Weight gain (g/mo) from ages: 1-12mo, t=3.0, P=0.002; 1-24mo, NSA	Length gain (mm/mo) from ages 1-12mo, NSA; 1-24mo, t: 2.5, P=0.01
Hawkins, 2009 (35) U.K. (England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland) N: 13,188	<4 vs. ≥4mo	Overweight or obesity at age 3y: OR=1.12, 95%CI: 1.02, 1.23, P<0.05		

Heinig, 1993 (36) U.S. N: 87 (N: 46 BF; N: 41 FF at 9mo)	BF: <26 vs. ≥26wk		WLZ from age 1-18mo, NSA	WAZ: from age 1-18mo, NSA; Weight gain from ages: 6-9mo, P<0.05; birth-4mo, 4-6mo, or 9-12mo, NSA	LAZ from age 1-18mo, NSA; Length gain from ages: birth-4mo, 4-6mo, 6-9mo, or 9-12mo, NSA
	FF: Continuous; <20 vs. ≥20wk			WAZ from age 1-18mo, NSA	LAZ from age 1-18mo, NSA Length gain from birth-4mo, 4-6mo, 6-9mo, or 9-12mo, NSA
Huh, 2011 (37) U.S. N: 847	<4 vs. 4-5mo, BF	Odds or prevalence of obesity at age 3y: NSA	BMI at age 3y, NSA; BMIZ at age 3y, NSA; Skinfolts at age 3y, NSA	Weight at age 3y, NSA; WAZ at 3y, NSA	Height or HAZ at age 3y, NSA
	<4 vs. 4-5mo, FF	Obesity at age 3y: OR=6.3; 95%CI: 2.3, 6.9, P<0.01; Prevalence of obesity, 25.2% vs. 4.9%, P<0.0001	BMIZ at age 3y: β=0.36; 95%CI: 0.10, 0.61, P=0.004; BMI at 3y: mean 17.2, SD:1.9 vs. 16.5, SD:1.5, P=0.004; Skinfolts at age 3y: NSA	Weight at age 3y: 16.7± 2.7kg vs. 15.8± 2.3g; P=0.01; WAZ at 3y: 0.92±1.1 vs. 0.55± 0.9, P=0.02	Height at age 3y, NSA; HAZ at 3y, NSA
	≥6 vs. 4-5mo, BF	Odds or prevalence of obesity at age 3y: NSA	BMIZ at age 3y, NSA; Skinfolts at age 3y, NSA	Weight at age 3y, NSA; WAZ at 3y, NSA	Height at age 3y, NSA; HAZ at 3y, NSA
	≥6 vs. 4-5mo, FF	Odds of obesity at age 3y, NSA; Prevalence of obesity, 16% vs. 4.9%, P=0.06	BMIZ at age 3y, NSA; Skinfolts at age 3y, NSA	Weight at age 3y: 16.6± 2.7kg vs. 15.8± 2.3kg, P=0.01; WAZ, NSA	Height at age 3y, NSA; HAZ at 3y, NSA

Imai, 2014 (38) Iceland N: 154	CFB+BF (n=57) vs. EBF (n=62) at 5mo	BMI at 6y, NSA	Weight at ages 6 or 18mo, NSA; at 12mo: 10.1± 1.2 vs. 9.6± 0.9kg, P<0.05; Mean weight change from ages: birth- 6mo, 360g, 95%CI: 58, 661, P<0.05; birth-12mo, 462g, 95%CI: 92, 831, P<0.05; 6- 12mo, NSA; 12- 18mo, NSA	Length at ages: 6mo, 69.1± 2.3cm vs. 68.3± 2.0cm, P<0.05; 12mo, NSA; 18mo, NSA
Johnson, 2014 (39) U.K. N: 4251	≥6mo (n=1364) or 5mo (n=1667) vs. <4mo (n=1714)		Weight at age 6mo: ≥6mo: - 102g, SE: 25g; 5mo: -40g, SE: 24g, P<0.0001. Growth velocity at age NR: ≥6mo: 4.9%, SE: 1.1%, 5mo: 1.4%, SE: 1% vs.<4mo: 6.8%, SE: 1.3%, P<0.0001. Tempo at age NR, NSA	
Kalies, 2005 (40) Germany N: 2,337	1-3 vs. >6mo		Risk of elevated weight gain at age 24mo: OR=1.31, 95%CI: 1.17, 2.30	



	4-6 vs. >6mo		Risk of elevated weight gain at age 24mo: OR=1.49, 95%CI: 0.97, 2.28		
Khadivzadeh, 2004 (41) Iran N: 193	CFB at 4mo vs. EBF 4-6mo		Weight at age 5mo, NSA; 6mo, NSA; Weight gain from 4-6mo, NSA	Length at ages: 5mo, NSA; 6mo, NSA; gain from 4-6mo, NSA	
Kramer, 1985 (43) Canada N: 347	Continuous	Skinfold thickness at age 24mo, NSA; BMI at age 24mo, NSA	Weight at age 24mo, NSA		
Kramer, 1985b (42) Canada N: 382	Continuous	Skinfold thickness at age 12mo, $\beta=-0.141$ , $r^2=0.038$ , $P=0.002$ ; BMI at 12mo, NSA	Weight at ages: 6mo $\beta=-0.178$ , $P<0.001$ ; 12mo $\beta=-0.198$ , $P<0.001$		
Kramer, 2004 (44) Belarus N: 17,046	Cereals at 3, 6, or 9mo	WLZ from ages 3-6, 6-9, 9-12mo, NSA	WAZ from ages: 3-6mo, $\beta=-0.293$ , 95% CI: -0.386, -0.199, $P=NR$ ; 6-9mo, NSA; 9-12mo, NSA	LAZ from ages: 3-6mo, $\beta=-0.240$ , 95% CI: -0.353, -0.127, $P=NR$ ; 6-9mo, NSA; 9-12mo, NSA	HC from ages 3-6mo, $\beta=-0.291$ , 95% CI: -0.463, -0.120, $P=NR$ ; HC 6-9, 9-12mo, NSA
	Other solids at 1, 3, 6, or 9mo	WLZ from ages 1-3, 3-6, 6-9, 9-12mo, NSA	WAZ from ages 1-3, 3-6, 6-9, 9-12mo, NSA	LAZ from ages 1-3, 3-6, 6-9mo, NSA; 9-12mo, $\beta=-0.082$ , 95% CI: -0.156, -0.008, $P=NR$	HC from ages 1-3, 3-6, 6-9, 9-12mo, NSA
	Juices/other liquids at 1, 3, 6, or 9mo	WLZ from ages 1-3, 3-6, 6-9mo, NSA; 9-12mo, $\beta=-0.061$ , 95% CI: 0.003, 0.119, $P=NR$	WAZ from ages 1-3, 3-6, 6-9, 9-12mo, NSA	LAZ from ages 1-3, 3-6, 6-9, 9-12mo, NSA	HC from ages 1-3, 3-6, 6-9, 9-12mo, NSA

Kuperberg, 2006 (45) Canada N: 71	Continuous; <4mo Y/N	Odds of overweight at age 48mo, NSA		
Lande, 2005 (46) Norway N: 1441	≤4, 4-5, >5mo		BMI at age 12mo, NSA	
Lauver, 1981 (47) U.S. N: 77	≤5 or >5mo		Weight at age 6mo, NSA	Length at age 6mo, NSA
Layte, 2014 (48) Ireland N: 11,134	<4vs. ≥6mo	Risk of obesity at age 3y, NSA	Rapid weight gain from age 9mo-3y, NSA; birth-9mo: OR=1.5, P<0.001	
.	<5 vs. ≥6mo	Risk of obesity at age 3y, NSA	Rapid weight gain from age 9mo-3y, NSA; birth-9mo: OR=1.34, P=0.00	
.	<6 vs. ≥6mo	Risk of obesity at age 3y, NSA	Rapid weight gain from age 9mo-3y, NSA; birth-9mo: OR=1.37, P=0.00	
Leary, 2015 (49) U.K. N: 4,750	3 or ≥4 vs. ≤2mo		Lean mass or FM at age 15y, NSA	
Makela, 2014 (50) Finland N: 848	Continuous, mo;	Risk of overweight or obesity at age 24mo, NSA	Weight gain from age birth to 24mo, NSA	
	<4, 4-6, >6mo		Weight gain, from age birth- 24mo, NSA	

Moss, 2014 (51) U.S. N: 7200 at 2y; 6950 at 4y	<4 vs. 4-5mo	Obesity at age 2y: OR=0.62; 95%CI: 0.50, 0.78, P<0.001; at 4y, NSA; Healthy weight status at age 2y or 4y, NSA		
	<4 vs. ≥6mo	Obesity at age 2y: OR=0.70; 95%CI: 0.52, 0.92; P<0.05; at 4y, NSA; Healthy weight status at 2y or 4y, NSA		
Neutzling, 2009 (52) Brazil N: 1204	<4, >4mo	Overweight or obesity risk at age 11y, NSA		
Pan, 2014 (53) U.S. N: 1189	<6mo vs. never	Obesity at age 6y, OR=1.92, 95%CI: 1.01, 3.66, P<0.05		
	<6 vs. ≥6mo	Obesity at age 6y, NSA		
	Never vs. ≥6mo	Obesity at age 6y, NSA		
Piwoz, 1996 (54) Peru N: 140	<4 BF/FF+CFB vs. >4mo BF/FF	Gained less weight from age birth-3mo; more weight after age 3mo, data NR		
Quandt, 1984 (55) U.S. N: 45	<4 vs. >4mo	WLZ at ages: 3mo, t=2.55, P<0.05; 4mo, t=2.37, P<0.05; 5mo, t=3.50, P<0.01; 6mo, t=2.56, P<0.05	Weight at ages: 3mo, t=2.35, P<0.05; 4mo, t=2.67, P<0.01; 5mo, t=2.58, P<0.01; 6mo, NSA	Length at ages: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6mo, NSA
Reilly, 2005 (56) U.K. N: 5493	<1, 1-2, 2-3, 3-4, 4-6, >6mo	Obesity at age 7y, NSA		
Robinson, 2009 (57) U.K. N: 536	NR	At age 4y: BMI, NSA; lean mass, NSA; lean mass index, NSA; FM,		

NSA; FMI, NSA				
Rossiter, 2013 (58) Canada N: 377	<4, >4mo	Normal or underweight vs. overweight or obesity prevalence at age 4y, NSA		
Salmenpera, 1985 (59) Finland N: 113 at 6-9mo, 84 at 9-12mo	CFB >6mo vs. EBF 6-9 or 9-12mo		Weight velocity from ages 3-9, 6-9, 9-12, or 6-12mo, all NSA	Length velocity from ages: 3-9, 6-9mo, NSA; 6-12mo, 91.7, SE: 1.8 vs. 89.3, SE: 1.9, P<0.05; 9-12mo: 100.1, SE: 2.0 vs. 87.5, SE: 7.7, P<0.05
Santorelli, 2014 (60) U.K. N: 1327	<17 vs. >17wk	BMIZ at age 3y, NSA		
Schack-Nielsen, 2010 (61) Denmark N: 5068	Spoon-feeding: continuous, mo	At age 42y, overweight or obesity, NSA	BMI ages: 1-34y, NSA; 42y, $\beta$ =-0.046, 95%CI: -0.86, -0.006, P=0.03; WC at age 42y, $\beta$ =-0.25cm/mo; 95%CI: -0.49, -0.01	
	Spoon-feeding, $\geq 4$ vs <4mo	Lower risk of overweight at age 42y, P=0.053		
Seach, 2010 (62) Australia N: 307	Continuous, wk	Risk of "above healthy" BMI at age 10y, $\beta$ =0.903, 95%CI: 0.841, 0.970, P=0.005		
van Rossem, 2013 (63) Netherlands N: 3184	0-3, 3-6, >6mo	WHZ change from age 12-45mo, NSA		

Victora, 1998 (64) Brazil N: 627	<3, >3mo		Ponderal index from age 3-6mo, NSA	Weight gain from age 3- 6mo, NSA	Length gain from age 3-6mo, NSA
Villalpando, 2000 (65) Mexico N: 170	Continuous			Weight gain from age 0- 6mo, -104g, SE: 1.67, P=0.03	Length gain from age 0-6mo, NSA
Warrington, 1988 (66) U.K. N: 78	Continuous, wk			Weight at age 1y or 2y, NSA	
Wells, 1998 (67) U.K. N: 20	<12 vs. >12wk		Skinfold thickness, FM or FFM at age 2-3.5y, NSA	Weight at age 2-3.5y, NSA	Height at age 2- 3.5y, NSA
Wen, 2014b (68) Australia N: 242	3-5 vs. <2mo	Overweight/obesity at age 2y, OR=0.15, 95%CI: 0.03, 0.55, P<0.005	BMI at age 2y, NSA		
	≥6 vs. <2mo	Overweight/obesity at age 2y, OR=0.14, 95%CI: 0.04, 0.47, P<0.005	BMI at age 2y, NSA		
WHO, 2002 (69) China, India, Guatemala, Nigeria, Chile, Sweden, Australia N: 1252	1-8 vs. 17-24wk			Weight or weight velocity at age 8wk, NSA Weight at 24wk, 49.6g, SE: 18.5, P=0.028; Weight velocity at 24wk, 3 g/wk, SE: 1.17, P=0.035	Length at age 8wk, -1.803mm, SE: 0.311, P=0.001; Length velocity at age 8wk, -0.192 mm/wk, SE: 0.08, P=0.049; Length or length velocity at age 24wk, NSA

	9-16 vs 17-24wk		Weight at age 8wk, -56.6g, SE: 15, P=0.002; Weight velocity at age 8wk, -6.8g/wk, SE: 2.55, P=0.029; Weight at age 24wk, 51.6g, SE: 16.8, P=0.012; Weight velocity at age 24wk, NSA	Length at age 8wk, -2.368mm, SE: 0.278, P=0.001; Length velocity at age 8wk, NSA. Length at age 24wk, 1.486mm, SE: 0.283, P=0.001; Length velocity at age 24wk, NSA
	25-32 vs. 17-24wk		Weight or weight velocity at ages 8wk or 24wk, NSA	Length at ages 8wk or 24wk, NSA; Length velocity at ages: 8wk, NSA; at 24wk, -0.151 mm/wk, SE: 0.038, P=0.001
Wilson, 1998 (70) U.K. N: 545	<15 vs. >15wk	% body fat at age 7y, 18.5%, 95%CI: 18.2%, 18.8% vs. 16.5%, 95%CI: 16.0%, 17.0%, P<0.01; BMI at age 7y, NSA	Weight SD score at age 7y, 0.02, 95%CI: -0.02, 0.06 vs. -0.09, 95%CI: -0.16, 0.02; P<0.025	Height at age 7y, NSA
Wolman, 1984 (71) U.S. N: 164	<12, >13wk	BMI at age 4-6y, NSA	Weight at age 4-6y, NSA	Height at age 4-6y, NSA
Woo, 2013 (72) U.S., Mexico, China N: 285	Continuous, mo	BMIZ at age 1y, NSA	WAZ at age 1y, NSA	LAZ at age 1y, NSA

Worobey, 2009 (73) U.S. N: 96	Continuous, mo		Weight gain from age 3- 6mo, NSA
Worobey, 2014 (74) U.S. N: 154	Continuous, mo		Weight gain from age 3- 6mo, NSA
Yeung, 1981 (75) Canada N: 316	<2 vs. >2mo		Sum of skinfold thickness at age 6mo, NSA
Zheng, 2015 (76) China N: 40,510	CFB, ≤3 vs. 4-6mo	Overweight at age 4-5y, OR=1.11; 95%CI: 1.03, 1.19; P=0.038; Obesity at age 4-5y, NSA	BMI at age 4-5y, P<0.001
	CFB, 4-6 vs. >6mo	Overweight or obesity at age 4-5y, NSA	BMI at age 4-5y, NSA
<b>Retrospective cohort studies</b>			
Burdette, 2006 (77) U.S. N: 313	No solids <4mo+ no sugar- sweetened beverages < 6mo vs. not	Prevalence of overweight at age 5y, NSA	Mean FM at age 5y, high % body fat at age 5y; BMIZ at 5y, NSA
<b>Nested case- control/case-control studies</b>			
Bammann, 2014 (78), Nested case- control; Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Spain and Sweden N: 1024	<4mo	Obesity risk at age 2- 9y, NSA	

Gungor, 2010 (79) U.S. N: 129	Continuous, mo in non-overweight vs. overweight at 6-8y	Mean 6.49, SD: 2.80 mo vs. 5.10 SD: 1.80 mo, P=0.007
Hui, 2003 (80) China N: 343	<4mo Y/N	Prevalence of overweight, normal- middle weight, or normal- low weight at age 6-7y, NSA
Zhou, 2011 (81) China N: 162	<4 vs. 4-6mo	Obesity at age 3-6y, OR=10.96; 95%CI: 2.08, 21.64, P=0.007
	4-6 vs. >6mo	Obesity risk at age 3-6y, NSA

1. The independent variable/exposure of interest included timing of CFB introduction.
2. Outcomes were categorized in accordance with the analytical framework (also see Figure 1). Results were extracted from multivariate-adjusted analyses wherever possible rather than univariate analyses, crude, and/or unadjusted measures. Standard deviation (SD) or standard error of the mean (SE) are indicated.

Abbreviations: CFB, complementary food/beverage; BF, breast-fed; FF, formula-fed; FM, fat mass; FFM, fat-free mass; FMI, fat mass index; FFMI, fat-free mass index; FMZ, fat mass z-score, FFMZ, fat-free mass z-score; NR, not reported; NSA, no significant associations; NSGD, no significant group differences; SD, standard deviation; SE, standard error of the mean



## Discussion

Moderate evidence suggests that first introduction of any CFB between 4-5 mo compared to approximately 6 mo of age is not associated with differences in weight status, body composition, body circumferences, weight or length among generally healthy, full-term infants. Limited evidence suggests that introducing CFB before 4 mo of age may be associated with higher odds of overweight/obesity. There is not enough evidence to determine the relationship between introduction of CFB at > 7 mo of age on growth, size, or body composition.

With the exception of the five included articles from two RCTs, which have a stronger study design relative to the observational studies, little evidence was provided to permit evaluation of causal relationships between timing of CFB introduction and growth, size, body composition, and/or weight status. The majority of included evidence came from prospective cohort studies (71 of 81 articles). Authors of three articles (both RCTs) noted limitations regarding sample size (1-3). Many of the observational studies (35 of 75) did not account for high rates of attrition/missing data but some did have large sample sizes to investigate the relationship between timing of introduction to CFB and growth, size, body composition, and/or weight status.

The majority of studies included in this SR were consistent across the body of evidence in terms of direction and statistical significance of findings, reporting no significant association between timing of CFB introduction and outcomes in terms of weight status (14 of 28 articles), body composition (*adiposity*: 14 of 19 articles, *weight-to-height*: 19 of 29 articles, and *central adiposity*: 4 of 5 articles), weight and length/height (18 of 28 articles), and/or head, arm, or thigh circumferences (7 of 8 articles). The evidence is strongest for studies examining introduction of CFB at approximately age 4 mo compared to 6 mo, which includes two RCTs (1-5). For the remaining observational studies that make up the body of evidence, there were considerable methodological limitations and inconsistencies in both the magnitude of observed effects and direction of findings. There was sufficient consistency among the observational studies reporting higher odds of overweight/obesity or weight when comparing very early (<4 mo) relative to later CFB introduction (various time points), such that a limited conclusion was warranted. Few studies examining growth, size, and/or body composition made an attempt to more specifically differentiate introduction at 4-5 vs. 6 mo of age. Combining participants into categories such as CFB  $\geq$  6 mo made comparisons across the body of evidence difficult, such that no conclusion was drawn regarding the introduction of CFB at age 7 mo or older. There was also inconsistency across studies in the body of evidence with respect to several factors: milk-feeding practices, the specific type of CFB that were introduced, the specific age interval when CFB were introduced, which outcomes were considered, and the age at which the outcome was measured.

Most studies in this SR directly examined timing of introduction of CFB and the outcomes of interest but varied in practical/clinical significance. Consideration of a broader-spectrum of growth-related outcomes than were included in many of the studies in this body of evidence may have led to stronger conclusions. For example, studies that examined weight status tended to report only weight status and not multiple outcomes, which would have provided important contextual information to aid

in the interpretation of weight status results. Any relationships observed within this body of evidence must be interpreted with caution, as earlier (i.e., human milk/infant formula) and later (toddler) feeding practices associated with CFB introduction may have stronger influences on growth, size, body composition, and/or weight status.

Overall, there was good generalizability with respect to the U.S. population. However, several studies were conducted in populations that were less similar to the U.S. population. For example, studies conducted in Israel, Peru, and Brazil enrolled participants, who either migrated from other countries with lower HDI or were from very disadvantaged populations (22, 54, 64, 68). In addition, some studies were less relevant to the U.S. due to differences in complementary feeding practices at the time the study was conducted and/or because they examined specific CFB that are less prominent as typical CFB in the U.S (15, 61, 76).

## Limitations

A primary methodological limitation across the observational studies was the variability in controlling for confounding factors. The majority of observational studies did not account for more than one of the key confounders from the analytic framework. Of the studies that identified at least one significant association, many did not adjust for baseline anthropometric values and either adjusted for birth weight or reported anthropometric outcomes at multiple time points. The majority of articles (~80%) adjusted for feeding practices aside from complementary feeding but how feeding practices were accounted for varied across studies. For example, studies may have enrolled either BF or FF infants, enrolled both but analyzed BF and FF infants separately, adjusted for duration of BF or FF in analyses, or did not adjust analyses but reported no differences between groups at baseline. There was minor inconsistency across studies in the description of human milk, infant formula, and/or types and amounts of CFB consumed. The majority of studies commonly defined CFB as solids other than human milk or infant formula, but several studies also reported the age of introduction of specific types of CFB (9, 11, 15, 18, 19, 44, 60, 61, 76), which are discussed in more detail in a separate SR (83).

Another limitation is the limited reliability/validity of assessment methods for both timing of CFB introduction and outcome assessment. Several studies used reported, not measured, weight/height from various sources (11, 28, 39, 47, 61, 71). Several studies did not describe their methods to assess outcomes (1, 33) or used unstandardized methods (44). Although the majority of observational studies reported using "standard procedures" for anthropometric measurements, many of the studies either lacked sufficient description of outcome assessment or indicated that measures were only collected once as opposed to in duplicate or triplicate (6, 8, 13, 22, 26, 31-34, 36-38, 40, 42-44, 46, 48, 50, 53, 55, 59, 64-67, 70, 76, 81). Another limitation common to the body of evidence was the assessment of timing of CFB introduction. Two studies did not clearly define their methods for analyzing timing of CFB introduction (27, 57). Multiple studies had distinct or unique ages at which they examined timing of CFB introduction (for examples see 25, 54, 69, 79), which does not allow for interpretation based on time points outside of those distinct or unique ages. Finally, many of the included articles examined CFB introduction <4 mo of age as the earliest category of introduction, with fewer relative comparison groups between 4-6

mo of age and/or >6 mo of age.

Finally, internal validity was a concern in several studies. In both of the RCTs, blinding of investigators could not be determined and participants were not blinded as they either received CFB or remained exclusively BF/FF. In the majority of the observational studies, blinding of outcome assessors could not be determined. Adequacy of statistical methods in several studies was insufficient due to either a lack of detail describing data or inconsistency of data reported (5, 16, 47, 54, 66) or difficulty in interpretation based on time points reported (69).

## Research recommendations

- Future research should account for the substantial individual variability that is likely in terms of the ideal timing of CFB introduction, which may contribute to the relationship between timing of CFB and growth, size, body composition, and/or weight status in a given study population. Factors to consider include:
  - Parent rationale for **timing** of introduction of CFB (e.g., infant feeding style, infant demand, infant size/growth faltering, attitudes/beliefs, fear of inadequate milk supply, infant sleep promotion)
  - Plasticity across time (intrauterine, genetic, and/or environmental effects)
  - Predominant type of early milk feeding (e.g. exclusive breastfeeding or formula feeding or mixed)
- In studies examining the association between timing of CFB introduction and child growth, inclusion of multiple growth-related measures substantially aid interpretation of results.
- Observational studies should be a low priority, in particular those that examine only one outcome and/or categorize by CFB introduction before 4 mo of age, in favor of additional rigorous RCTs that examine multiple outcomes and/or CFB introduction between the ages of 4 mo and 6 mo or later.

## Included articles

1. Bainbridge RR, Mimouni FB, Landi T, Crossman M, Harris L, Tsang RC. Effect of rice cereal feedings on bone mineralization and calcium homeostasis in cow milk formula fed infants. *Journal of the American College of Nutrition*. 1996;15:383-8.
2. Jonsdottir, O H, Kleinman, R E, Wells, J C, et al. Exclusive breastfeeding for 4 versus 6 months and growth in early childhood. *Acta paediatrica (Oslo, Norway : 1992)*. 2014;103(1):105-11.
3. Jonsdottir, O H, Thorsdottir, I, Gunnlaugsson, G, et al. Exclusive breastfeeding and developmental and behavioral status in early childhood. *Nutrients*. 2013;5(11):4414-28.
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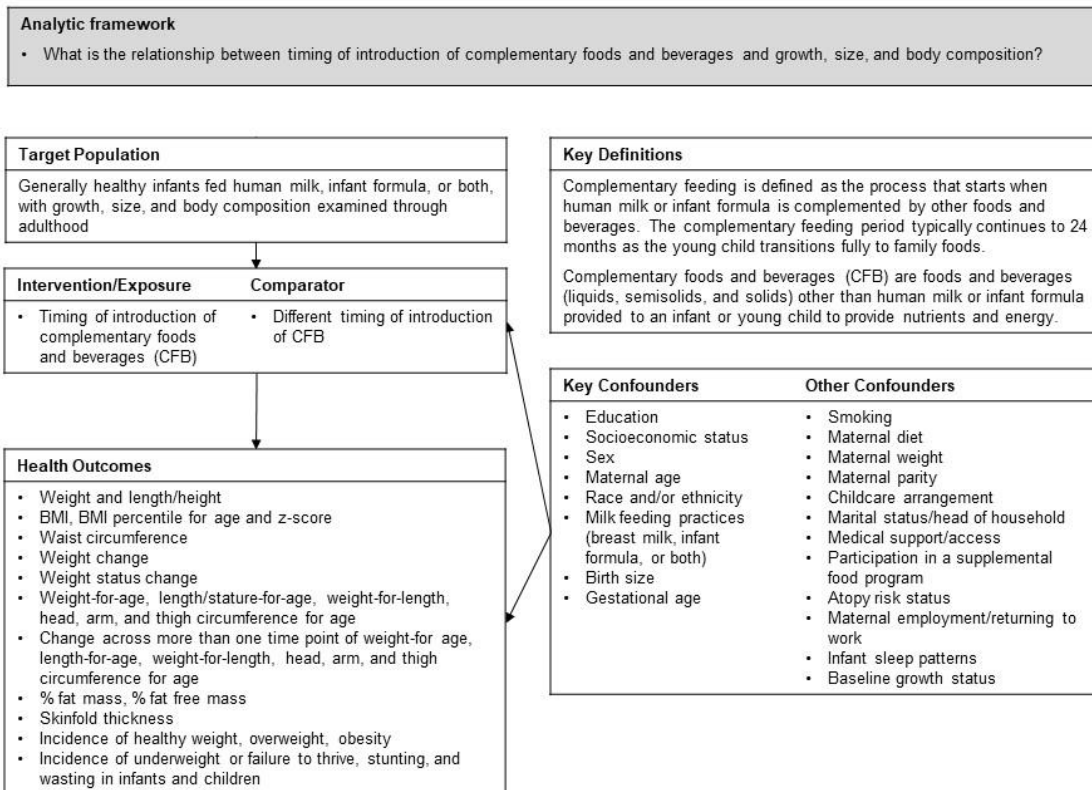
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# ANALYTIC FRAMEWORK

The analytic framework (Figure 1) illustrates the overall scope of the systematic review, including the population, the interventions and/or exposures, comparators, and outcomes of interest. It also includes definitions of key terms and identifies key confounders considered in the systematic review. This is the analytic framework for the systematic review conducted to examine the relationship between complementary feeding and growth, size, and body composition.

**Figure 1: Analytic framework**



## SEARCH PLAN AND RESULTS

### Inclusion and exclusion criteria

This table provides the inclusion and exclusion criteria for the systematic review question on timing of introduction of complementary foods and beverages and growth, size, and body composition. The inclusion and exclusion criteria are a set of characteristics to determine which studies will be included or excluded in the systematic review.

**Table 2. Inclusion and exclusion criteria**

Category	Inclusion Criteria	Exclusion Criteria
<b>Study design</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Randomized controlled trials</li> <li>• Non-randomized controlled trials</li> <li>• Prospective cohort studies</li> <li>• Retrospective cohort studies</li> <li>• Case-control studies</li> <li>• Pre/post studies with a control</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross-sectional studies</li> <li>• Uncontrolled studies</li> <li>• Pre/post studies without a control</li> <li>• Narrative reviews</li> <li>• Systematic reviews</li> <li>• Meta-analyses</li> </ul>
<b>Independent variable (intervention or exposure)</b>	Timing of introduction of CFB. CFB are foods and beverages other than human milk or infant formula (liquids, semisolids, and solids) provided to an infant or young child to provide nutrients and energy.	Isolated consumption of human milk, infant formulas (e.g., milk-based, soy, partially-hydrolyzed, extensive-hydrolyzed, amino acid-based), fluid cow's milk before 12 months of age, or vitamin and mineral supplements (e.g., iron drops)
<b>Comparator</b>	Different timing of introduction of CFB	N/A
<b>Dependent variables (outcomes)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weight and length/height</li> <li>• BMI, BMI percentile for age and z-score</li> <li>• Waist circumference</li> <li>• Weight change</li> <li>• Weight status change</li> <li>• Weight-for-age, length/stature-for-age, weight-for-length, head, arm, and thigh circumference for age</li> <li>• Change across more than one time point of weight-for age, length-for-age, weight-for-</li> </ul>	N/A

	length, head, arm, and thigh circumference for age <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % fat mass, % fat free mass</li> <li>• Skinfold thickness</li> <li>• Incidence of healthy weight, overweight, obesity</li> <li>• Incidence of underweight or failure to thrive, stunting, and wasting in infants and children</li> </ul>	
<b>Date range</b>	• January 1980 - July 2016	
<b>Language</b>	• Studies published in English	• Studies published in languages other than English
<b>Publication status</b>	• Studies published in peer-reviewed journals	• Grey literature, including unpublished data, manuscripts, reports, abstracts, conference proceedings
<b>Country</b> <sup>1</sup>	• Studies conducted in Very High or High Human Development Countries	• Studies conducted in Medium or Low Human Development Countries
<b>Study participants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human subjects</li> <li>• Males</li> <li>• Females</li> </ul>	• Hospitalized patients, not including birth and immediate post-partum hospitalization of healthy babies
<b>Age of study participants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age at intervention or exposure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Infants (0-12 months)</li> <li>○ Toddlers (12-24 months)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Age at outcome: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Infants (0-12 months)</li> <li>○ Toddlers (12-24 months)</li> <li>○ Child (2-5 years)</li> <li>○ Child (6-12 years)</li> <li>○ Adolescents (13-18 years)</li> <li>○ Adults (19 and older)</li> <li>○ Older adults (65 to 79 years)</li> <li>○ Older adults (80+ years)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age at intervention or exposure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Child (2-5 years)</li> <li>○ Child (6-12 years)</li> <li>○ Adolescents (13-18 years)</li> <li>○ Adults (19 and older)</li> <li>○ Older adults (65 to 79 years)</li> <li>○ Older adults (80+ years)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Health status of study</b>	• Studies done in generally healthy populations	• Studies that exclusively enroll subjects with a

<b>participants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Studies done in populations where infants were full term (<math>\geq 37</math> weeks gestational age)</li> <li>• Studies done in populations with elevated chronic disease risk, or that enroll some participants with a disease or with the health outcome of interest</li> </ul>	disease or with the health outcome of interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Studies done in hospitalized or malnourished subjects</li> <li>• Studies of exclusively pre-term babies (gestational age <math>&lt; 37</math> weeks) or babies that are small for gestational age (<math>&lt; 2500g</math>)</li> <li>• Studies of subjects with infectious diseases (e.g. HIV/AIDS) (or with mothers diagnosed with an infectious disease)</li> </ul>
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<sup>1</sup> The ratings of country development (e.g., high, medium, low, very low) were based on the Human Development Report 2014 (82). When a country was not included in the Human Development Report 2014 ranking, country classification from the World Bank was used instead (84). Medium Development countries were originally included, but due to concerns about generalizability to the U.S. of study participants (i.e., baseline health status) and complementary foods and beverages typically consumed, a decision was made to exclude “Medium” countries in October 2017

## Search terms and electronic databases used

### PubMed:

Date(s) Searched: 7/19/2016

Search Terms:

Final:

Complementary OR supplementary OR wean\* OR transition\* OR introduc\* OR "Infant Nutritional Physiological Phenomena"[Mesh:noexp] OR weaning[mesh] OR ((bottle\*) NOT (milk OR formula))

AND (feeding\* OR food OR beverage\*[tiab] OR beverages[mh] OR eating OR diet[tiab] OR diet[mh] OR meal\*[tiab] OR meals[mh] OR "Food and Beverages"[Mesh] OR diets[tiab] OR cereal\*[tiab] OR "Edible Grain"[Mesh] OR bread\*[tiab] OR whole grain\* OR juice\*[tiab] OR milk[tiab] OR "Milk"[Mesh] OR dairy[tiab] OR "Dairy Products"[Mesh] OR meat[tiab] OR cheese[tiab] OR yogurt[tiab] OR yoghurt\*[tiab] OR fruit\*[tiab] OR "Fruit"[Mesh] OR vegetable\*[tiab] OR "Vegetables"[Mesh] OR egg\*[tiab] OR "Eggs"[Mesh] OR nut[tiab] OR nuts[tiab] OR peas[tiab] OR beans[tiab] OR legume\*[tiab] OR snack\*[tiab] OR bread[mh] OR honey[mh] OR vegetable\*[tiab] OR "Vegetables"[Mesh] OR egg\*[tiab] OR "Eggs"[Mesh:noexp] OR "egg white"[mh] OR "egg yolk"[mh] OR snack\*[tiab] OR candy[mh] OR "Fast Foods"[Mesh] OR meat[mh] OR molasses[mh] OR nuts[mh] OR "Raw Foods"[Mesh] OR seeds[mh])

OR "infant food"[mesh]

OR infant feed\*

OR

(breast feeding[mh] OR breastfeeding[tiab] OR breast feeding\*[tiab] OR breast-feeding\*[tiab] OR breastfed[tiab] OR breast-fed[tiab] OR breast-feed OR breast-feeds)

OR

(Bottle feeding[mh] OR bottle feeding\*[tiab]s OR bottle feeding OR bottle-feeding\*[tiab] OR bottle-feedings OR bottle-fed[tiab] OR "bottle fed"[tiab])

NOT (editorial[ptyp] OR comment[ptyp] OR news[ptyp] OR letter[ptyp] OR review[ptyp] OR systematic[sb])

OR ((Solid food\*) OR solids));

AND

Growth[mh:noexp] OR "Child Development"[Mesh] OR "Growth Charts"[Mesh] OR "growth and development" [Subheading] OR "growth and development"[tiab] OR "Growth and Development"[Mesh:noexp] OR "Growth"[tiab] OR development\*[tiab] OR "Child Development"[Mesh] OR child develop\*[tiab] OR tooth[mh] OR tooth[tiab] OR teeth[tiab] OR movement[mh] OR "Overnutrition"[Mesh] OR under-nutrition[tiab] OR undernutrition[tiab] OR "developmental delay"[tiab] OR "Motor Skills"[Mesh] OR "Nonverbal Communication"[Mesh]

Standing[tiab] OR sitting[tiab] OR walking[tiab] OR crawling[tiab] OR "Motor Skills"[Mesh] OR  
Ages and Stages Questionnaire\* OR ASQ[tiab]

OR Cognitive[tiab] OR cognition[mh] OR cognition OR learning OR "Learning Disorders"[Mesh]  
OR "Intellectual Disability"[Mesh] OR intelligence[tiab] OR intelligence[mh] OR  
"Achievement"[Mesh] OR "Aptitude"[Mesh] OR "Executive Function"[Mesh] OR memory OR  
inhibitory control\*[tiab] OR "problem solving"[tiab] OR "Social-emotional development"[tiab] OR  
"Neurological development"[tiab] OR "mental development"[tiab] OR  
"Motor development"[tiab] OR anxiety[tiab] OR anxiety[mh:noexp] OR "Anxiety,  
Separation"[Mesh] OR depression[tiab] OR depression[mh] OR "Depression, Postpartum"[Mesh]  
OR "Depressive Disorder"[Mesh] OR  
"Visual Acuity"[Mesh] OR "Auditory Perception"[Mesh] OR "Psychological Tests"[Mesh]

OR

("Bone Density"[Mesh] OR "bone density"[tiab] OR "Bone Development"[Mesh] OR "Bone  
Development"[tiab] OR "Fractures, Bone"[Mesh] OR "Bone Diseases"[Mesh] OR  
osteoporosis[tiab] OR (bone[tiab] AND fracture\*[tiab]) OR "Rickets"[Mesh] OR ricket\*[tiab] OR  
bone mineral\*[tiab] OR "bone mass"[tiab] OR bone health\*[tiab] OR "Bone Demineralization,  
Pathologic"[Mesh] OR bone demineral\*[tiab])

OR

("body size"[tiab] OR body size[mh] OR obesity[tiab] OR obese[tiab] OR overweight[mh] OR  
obesity[mh] OR overweight [tiab] OR adipos\*[tiab] OR adiposity[mh] OR "body composition"[mh]  
OR body fat distribution[mh] OR "body fat"[tiab] OR "body weight"[tiab] OR body weight[mh] OR  
birth weight\*[tiab] OR weight gain[mh] OR weight loss[mh] OR "body-weight"[tiab] OR "weight  
gain"[tiab] OR weight-gain[tiab] OR weight loss[tiab] OR weight-loss[tiab] OR "Body Weights and  
Measures"[mh] OR weight[ti] OR "Anthropometry"[Mesh:noexp] OR body mass index[mh] OR  
"body mass index"[tiab] OR BMI[tiab] OR "weight status"[tiab] OR "adipose tissue"[mh] OR  
"healthy weight"[tiab] OR waist circumference[mh] OR "body mass"[ti] OR "fat mass"[tiab] OR  
body weight changes[mh] OR "waist circumference"[tiab] OR ideal body weight[mh] OR waist-hip  
ratio[mh] OR Waist Hip\*[tiab] OR body height\*[tiab] OR Crown-Rump Length\*[tiab] OR head  
circumference\*[tiab] OR arm circumference\*[tiab] OR thigh circumference\* OR limb  
circumference\* OR fat free mass\*[tiab] OR skinfold[tiab] OR skin fold\*[tiab])

AND

infant\* OR baby OR babies OR toddler\* OR newborn\*[tiab] OR "Child, Preschool"[Mesh] OR  
preschool\*[tiab] OR pre-school\*[tiab] OR "early childhood"[tiab] OR "early years"[tiab] OR pre-  
k[tiab] OR pre-primary[tiab] OR under five\*[ti] OR young child\*[ti] OR "head start"[tiab] OR  
prekindergarten[tiab] OR pre-kindergarten[tiab] OR weanling\*  
OR limit to child, preschool

for child 0-18 all develop outcomes  
for all; body wgt/comp/bone

NOT

nutritional status[mh] OR nutritional status\*[tiab] OR Nutrition Status\*[tiab] OR Iron[mh] OR

iron[tiab] OR "Anemia"[Mesh] OR "Anemia"[tiab] OR iron deficien\*[tiab] OR ferritin\*[tiab] OR ferrous[tiab] OR "Transferrin"[Mesh] OR "Transferrin"[tiab] OR zinc OR "Vitamin D"[Mesh] OR "Vitamin D"[tiab] OR "Vitamin D Deficiency"[Mesh] OR "Vitamin B 12"[Mesh] OR "Vitamin B 12"[tiab] OR "Vitamin B12"[tiab] OR "Vitamin B 12 Deficiency"[Mesh] OR Cobamide\*[tiab] OR Cobalamin\*[tiab] OR Cyanocobalamin[tiab] OR Folate[tiab] OR "Folic Acid"[Mesh] OR folacin[tiab] OR vitamin b9\*[tiab] OR Fatty acid\*[tiab] OR "Fatty Acids"[Mesh:noexp] OR fatty acid\*[tiab] OR "Fatty Acids, Unsaturated"[Mesh:noexp] OR Arachidonic acid\*[tiab] OR linolenic acid\*[tiab] OR linoleic acid\*[tiab] OR Docosahexaenoic Acid\*[tiab] OR Eicosapentaenoic Acid\*[tiab] OR gamma-Linolenic Acid\*[tiab] OR "Arachidonic Acids"[Mesh] OR "Fatty Acids, Essential"[Mesh] OR "Fatty Acids, Omega-3"[Mesh] OR "Fatty Acids, Omega-6"[Mesh] OR alpha-Linolenic Acid\*[tiab] OR "Fatty Acids, Essential"[Mesh] OR "Linolenic Acids"[Mesh] OR "Trans Fatty Acids"[Mesh] OR "Fatty Acids, Monounsaturated"[Mesh]

for nonmedline[sb]: NOT animals by: NOT (sheep[ti] OR lamb[ti] OR lambs[ti] OR calving[ti] OR calves[ti] OR mice[ti] OR mouse[ti] OR pigs[ti] OR cows[ti] OR piglets[ti] OR cow[ti] OR piglet[ti] OR monkey[ti] OR rats[ti] OR rat[ti] OR animal\*[ti])

## Embase:

Date(s) Searched: 8/1/16

Search Terms:

(Complementary OR supplementa\* OR wean\* OR transition\* OR introduc\* OR family) NEAR/3 (feed\* OR food\* OR beverage\* OR eating OR diet)

OR

(Complementary OR transition\* OR introduct\* OR wean\*) AND (food/exp OR 'baby food'/exp OR 'cereal'/exp OR 'dairy product'/exp OR 'egg'/exp OR 'fruit'/exp OR 'meat'/exp OR 'sea food'/exp OR 'milk'/exp OR fish/exp OR 'poultry'/exp OR 'beverage'/exp OR 'vegetable'/exp OR nut/exp OR pea/exp OR meal/exp)

OR

(Complementary OR supplementa\* OR wean\* OR transition\* OR introduc\*) NEAR/5 ('whole grain' OR 'whole grains' OR dairy OR egg OR eggs OR meat OR poultry OR seafood OR fruit\* OR milk OR fish\* OR poultry OR beverage\* OR vegetables\* OR pea OR peas OR nut OR nuts OR cereal OR bread\* OR yog\*urt\* OR cheese\* OR juice\* OR rice OR soup OR legume\* OR snack\* OR meal\*) (for Embase)

OR 'baby food'/de OR (solid NEAR/2 food\*):ab,ti

AND

(infant\*:ti,ab OR infant/exp) OR (baby OR babies OR toddler\* OR newborn\* OR nurser\*):ti,ab OR 'newborn'/exp OR 'newborn care'/exp OR preschool\*:ti,ab OR pre-school:ti,ab OR 'preschool child'/exp OR 'infancy'/exp OR "early childhood":ti,ab OR "early years" OR pre-k:ti,ab OR 'nursery'/exp OR 'nursery school'/exp OR prekindergarten:ti,ab OR pre-kindergarten:ti,ab OR weanling\*

AND ([in process]/lim OR [article]/lim OR [article in press]/lim) AND ([embase]/lim NOT [medline]/lim)

AND

Limit to humans:

AND

'executive function'/exp OR 'executive function':ti,ab OR 'learning'/exp OR 'intelligence'/exp OR 'mental development'/exp OR 'mental development':ti,ab OR intelligence:ti,ab OR cogniti\*:ti,ab OR 'cognition'/exp OR 'cognition assessment'/exp OR aptitude:ti,ab OR 'memory'/exp OR memory:ti,ab OR 'anxiety'/exp OR 'anxiety':ti,ab OR 'depression'/exp OR depressi\*:ti,ab OR 'visual acuity'/exp OR visual:ti OR 'hearing'/exp OR hearing:ti,ab OR auditory:ti,ab OR 'postnatal development'/exp OR 'postnatal development':ti,ab OR 'overnutrition'/exp OR 'overnutrition':ti,ab OR undernutrition:ti,ab OR "developmental delay":ti,ab OR 'nonverbal communication'/exp OR

('metabolic bone disease'/exp OR osteoporosis:ti,ab OR (bone NEAR/2 (disease\* OR fracture\* OR injur\* OR health\* OR density OR mineralize\* OR demineraliz\*)):ti,ab OR ricket\*:ti,ab OR 'bone injury'/exp OR 'bone density'/exp)

AND

'body size'/de OR 'body size':ti,ab OR 'obesity'/exp OR overweight:ab,ti OR 'macrosomia'/exp OR obese:ab,ti OR obesity:ab,ti OR 'weight gain':ab,ti OR adiposity:ab,ti OR adipose:ab,ti OR 'body weight'/exp OR 'body weight':ti,ab OR 'weight gain'/de OR 'body composition'/exp OR 'body composition':ti,ab OR 'body fat':ab,ti OR 'anthropometry'/de OR 'body mass'/de OR bmi:ab,ti OR 'body mass':ab,ti OR weight:ab,ti OR (waist NEXT/1 hip NEXT/1 ratio\*) OR 'body fat'/de OR 'adipose tissue'/exp OR skinfold OR 'skin fold':ti,ab OR 'fat mass':ti,ab OR 'fat mass'/exp OR 'anthropometric parameters'/exp OR circumference OR length OR height

OR

'body growth'/exp 'body growth':ti,ab OR 'growth rate and growth regulation'/exp OR 'postnatal growth'/exp OR 'human development'/exp OR 'Bayley Scales of Infant Development'/exp OR 'cognition assessment'/exp OR 'mental function assessment'/de

## **Cochrane:**

Date(s) Searched: 8/9/16

Search Terms:

(feed\* OR food\* OR beverage\* OR diet\* OR 'whole grain' OR 'whole grains' OR dairy OR egg OR meat OR poultry OR seafood OR fruit\* OR milk OR fish\* OR poultry OR vegetables\* OR pea OR beans OR legume\* OR nut OR cereal OR beverage\* OR bread\* OR seafood OR yog\*urt\* OR cheese OR juice OR snack OR yogurt OR yoghurt OR nut OR nuts OR honey OR meal OR meals) NEAR/3 (Complementary OR supplementa\* OR wean\* OR transition\* OR introduct\* OR family)



OR

[mh ^"Infant Nutritional Physiological Phenomena"] OR [mh weaning] OR ((bottle\*) NOT (milk OR formula))  
AND ([mh beverages] OR [mh eating] OR [mh diet] OR [mh meals] OR [mh "Food and Beverages"] OR [mh "Edible Grain"] OR [mh "Milk"] OR dairy[:ti,ab OR [mh "Dairy Products"] OR [mh "Fruit"] OR [mh "Vegetables"] OR [mh "Eggs"] OR [mh bread] OR [mh honey] OR [mh "Vegetables"] OR [mh ^"Eggs"] OR [mh "egg white"] OR [mh "egg yolk"] OR [mh candy] OR [mh "Fast Foods"] OR [mh meat] OR [mh molasses] OR [mh nuts] OR [mh "Raw Foods"] OR [mh seeds])

OR

((Infant\* OR baby\* OR babies) NEAR/2 food\*):ti,ab OR [mh "infant food"]

AND

[mh ^Growth] OR [mh "Child Development"] OR [mh "Growth Charts"] OR "growth and development" OR [mh ^"Growth and Development"] OR [mh "Child Development"] OR (child NEAR/1 develop\*):ti,ab OR [mh tooth] OR tooth:ti,ab OR teeth:ti,ab OR [mh movement] OR [mh "Overnutrition"] OR "under-nutrition:ti,ab OR undernutrition:ti,ab OR [mh "Motor Skills"] OR [mh "Nonverbal Communication"]

OR

'body growth':ti,ab OR 'growth rate and growth regulation' OR 'postnatal growth':ti,ab OR 'human development':ti,ab OR 'Bayley Scales of Infant Development'

OR Standing:ti,ab OR sitting:ti,ab OR walking:ti,ab OR crawling:ti,ab OR "Ages and Stages Questionnaire" OR ASQ:ti,ab

OR [mh cognition] OR [mh learning] OR [mh "Learning Disorders"] OR [mh "Intellectual Disability"] OR intelligence:ti,ab OR [mh intelligence] OR [mh "Achievement"] OR [mh "Aptitude"] OR [mh "Executive Function"] OR (inhibitory NEAR/1 control\*):ti,ab OR "problem solving":ti,ab OR "Social-emotional development":ti,ab OR "Neurological development":ti,ab OR "mental development":ti,ab OR "Motor development":ti,ab OR [mh ^anxiety] OR [mh "Anxiety, Separation"] OR [mh depression] OR [mh "Depression, Postpartum"] OR [mh "Depressive Disorder"] OR [mh "Visual Acuity"] OR [mh "Auditory Perception"] OR [mh "Psychological Tests"]

OR Stunt\*:ti,ab OR wasting:ti,ab

OR

cogniti\*:ti,ab OR aptitude:ti,ab OR memory:ti,ab OR [mh memory] OR 'anxiety':ti,ab OR depressi\*:ti,ab OR visual:ti,ab OR vision:ti,ab OR hearing:ti,ab OR auditory:ti,ab OR 'postnatal development':ti,ab OR 'overnutrition':ti,ab OR "developmental delay":ti,ab OR 'nonverbal communication'

OR

[mh "Bone Density"] OR [mh "Bone Development"] OR [mh "Fractures, Bone"] OR [mh "Bone Diseases"] OR [mh "Rickets"] OR [mh "Bone Demineralization, Pathologic"] OR osteoporosis:ti,ab OR (bone NEAR/2 (disease\* OR fracture\* OR injur\* OR health\* OR density OR mineral\* OR demineral\* OR develop\* OR mass)):ti,ab OR ricket\*:ti,ab

OR

'body size':ti,ab OR overweight:ab,ti OR 'macrosomia':ti,ab OR obese:ab,ti OR obesity:ab,ti OR adipos\*:ab,ti OR 'body weight':ti,ab OR 'weight gain':ti,ab OR 'body composition':ti,ab OR 'body fat':ab,ti OR 'anthropometr\*':ti,ab OR bmi:ab,ti OR 'body mass':ab,ti OR (waist NEXT/1 hip NEXT/1 ratio\*) OR 'body fat':ti,ab OR 'adipose tissue':ti,ab OR skinfold:ti,ab OR 'skin fold':ti,ab OR 'fat mass':ti,ab OR circumference:ti,ab OR length:ti,ab OR height:ti,ab

([mh "body size"] OR [mh overweight] OR [mh obesity] OR [mh adiposity] OR [mh "body composition"] OR [mh "body fat distribution"] OR [mh "body weight"] OR [mh "weight gain"] OR [mh "weight loss"] OR "weight gain":ti,ab OR "weight loss":ti,ab OR "weight-loss":ti,ab OR [mh "Body Weights and Measures"] OR weight:ti OR [mh ^"Anthropometry"] OR [mh "body mass index"] OR "weight status":ti,ab OR [mh "adipose tissue"] OR "healthy weight":ti,ab OR [mh "waist circumference"] OR [mh "body weight changes"] OR [mh "ideal body weight"] OR [mh "waist-hip ratio"] OR "Waist Hip":ti,ab OR "waist-hip":ti,ab OR "Crown-Rump":ti,ab OR "fat free mass":ti,ab)

NOT (pubmed OR embase)

## CINAHL

Date(s) Searched: 8/22/2016

Search Terms:

(MH "Food and Beverages+") OR (MH "Food") OR (MH "Diet") OR (MH "Eating") OR (MH "Eating Behavior") OR (MH "Taste") OR (MH "Taste Buds") OR (MH "Cereals") OR (MH "Dairy Products") OR (MH "Yogurt") OR (MH "Cheese") OR (MH "Milk") OR (MH "Eggs") OR (MH "Fruit") OR (MH "Fruit Juices") OR (MH "Meat") OR (MH "Seafood") OR (MH "Fish") OR (MH "Poultry") OR (MH "Vegetables") OR (MH "Nuts") OR (MH "Legumes") OR (MH "Bread") **AND** (Complementary OR supplementa\* OR wean\* OR transition\* OR introduc\*)

OR

('whole grain' OR 'whole grains' OR dairy OR egg OR eggs OR meat OR poultry OR seafood OR fruit\* OR milk OR fish\* OR poultry OR vegetables\* OR pea OR peas OR nut OR nuts OR cereal OR beverage\* OR bread\* OR seafood OR yog\*urt\* OR cheese\* OR juice\*) **N5** (Complementary OR supplementa\* OR wean\* OR transition\* OR introduc\* OR family)

OR (Infant\* OR baby OR babies) N2 food\*

NOT

(MH "Nutritional Status") OR "nutritional status" OR (MH "Nutritional Requirements") OR (MH "Vitamin D") OR (MH "Vitamin D Deficiency") OR (MH "Vitamin B12 Deficiency") OR (MH "Anemia") OR "anemia" OR (MH "Anemia, Iron Deficiency") OR (MH "Iron") OR (MH "Zinc") OR (MH "Vitamin B12") OR (MH "Vitamin B12 Deficiency") OR (MH "Folic Acid") OR (MH "Niacin")

OR (MH "Folic Acid Deficiency") OR "folate" OR "folacin" OR cyanocobalamin\* OR cobalamin\* OR cobamamide\* OR (MH "Fatty Acids") OR "fatty acids" OR (MH "Fatty Acids, Omega-6") OR (MH "Fatty Acids, Omega-3") OR (MH "Fatty Acids, Unsaturated") OR (MH "Trans Fatty Acids") OR (MH "Fatty Acids, Monounsaturated") OR (MH "Fatty Acids, Saturated") OR (MH "Fatty Acids, Essential") OR (MH "Arachidonic Acids") OR (MH "Docosahexaenoic Acids") OR (MH "Linolenic Acids") OR (MH "Linoleic Acids")

AND

osteoporosis OR (bone n2 (disease\* OR fracture\* OR injur\* OR health\* OR density OR mineralize\* OR demineraliz\*)) OR ricket\* OR (MH "Osteoporosis") OR (MH "Bone Density") OR (MH "Bone Diseases+") OR (MH "Bone Diseases, Developmental+") OR (MH "Rickets+")

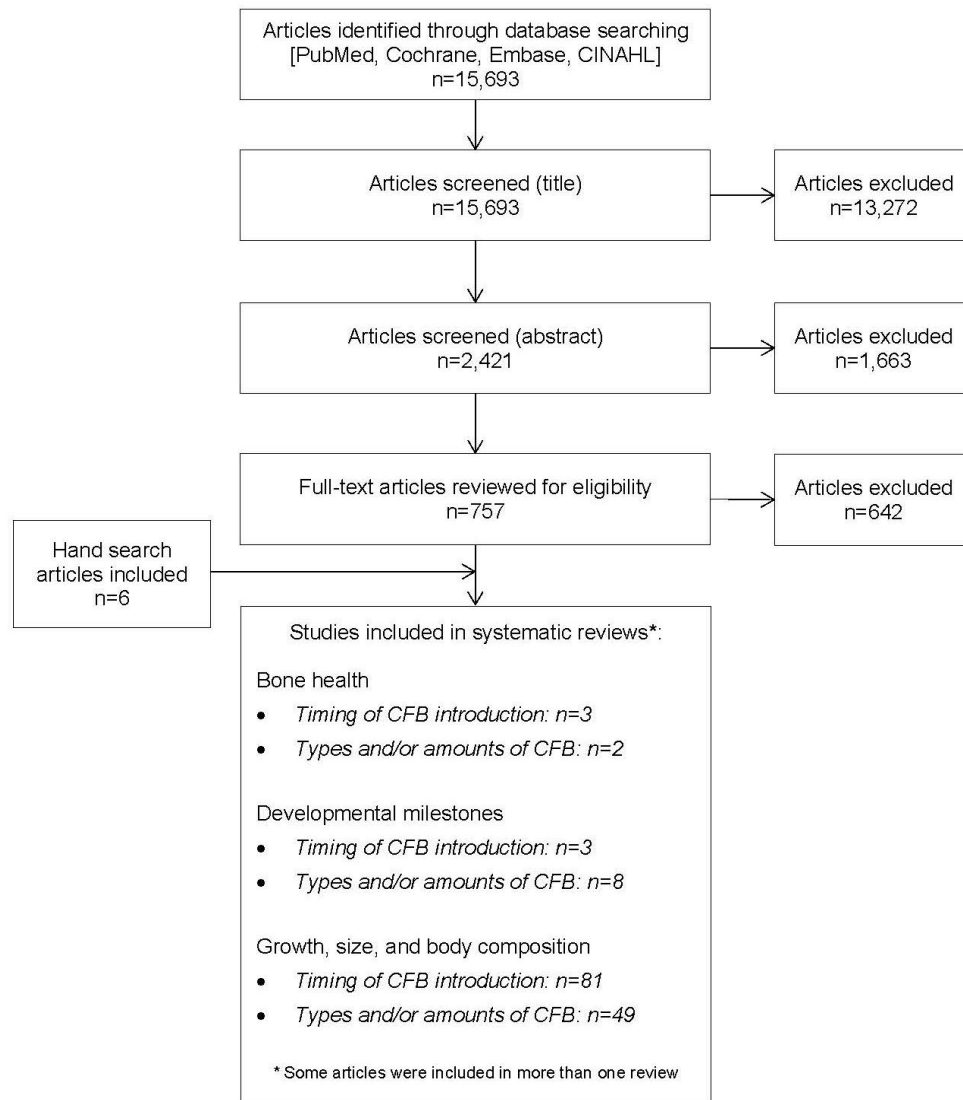
OR

(MH "Executive Function") OR (MH "Learning+") OR (MH "Intelligence+") OR "intelligence" OR (MH "Intelligence Tests") OR (MH "Cognition+") OR "cognition" OR "mental development" OR (MH "Aptitude") OR "aptitude" OR (MH "Aptitude Tests+") OR (MH "Memory+") OR "memory" OR (MH "Anxiety+") OR "anxiety" OR (MH "Depression+") OR "depression" OR (MH "Visual Acuity") OR (MH "Visual Perception+") OR (MH "Hearing+") OR "auditory" OR "overnutrition" OR "undernutrition" OR (MH "Nonverbal Communication+") OR "postnatal development" OR OR "developmental delay"

OR

(MH "Anthropometry+") OR (MH "Body Weights and Measures+") OR (MH "Body Weight+") OR (MH "Bone Development+") OR (MH "Growth+") OR (MH "Human Development+") OR "bayley scales" OR "mental function" OR (MH "Body Size") OR (MH "Obesity+") OR "overweight" OR "macrosomia" OR (MH "Weight Gain+") OR (MH "Waist-Hip Ratio") OR (MH "Body Composition+") OR (MH "Adipose Tissue+") OR (MH "Abdominal Fat") OR (MH "Fat Free Mass") OR (MH "Body Mass Index") OR (MH "Skinfold Thickness") OR (MH "Head Circumference") OR (MH "Arm Circumference") OR (MH "Waist Circumference") OR (MH "Growth and Development (Omaha)") OR (MH "Body Height") OR (MH "Crown-Rump Length") OR (MH "Leg Length Inequality") OR (MH "Mean Length of Utterance")

**Figure 2: Flow chart of literature search and screening results**



This flow chart illustrates the literature search results for articles examining the relationship between complementary feeding and growth, size, and/or body composition. The results of an electronic database search were screened independently by two NESR analysts by reviewing titles, abstracts, and full text articles to determine which articles met the criteria for inclusion. A manual search was done to ascertain articles not identified through the electronic database search. The systematic review on timing of introduction of CFB included 81 articles, and the systematic review on types and amounts of CFB consumed included 49 articles. The literature search was conducted for multiple systematic reviews that addressed complementary feeding and various health outcomes.

## Excluded articles

The table below lists the excluded articles with at least one reason for exclusion, but may not reflect all possible reasons.

**Table 3. Excluded articles**

	Citation	Rationale <sup>1</sup>
1	Complementary feeding in the WHO Multicentre Growth Reference Study. <i>Acta Paediatr Suppl.</i> 2006;450:27-37.	DV
2	Weaning and the weaning diet. Report of the Working Group on the Weaning Diet of the Committee on Medical Aspects of Food Policy. <i>Rep Health Soc Subj (Lond)</i> .1994;45:1-113.	Design
3	Aarts, C.,Kylberg, E.,Hofvander, Y.,Gebre-Medhin, M. Growth under privileged conditions of healthy Swedish infants exclusively breastfed from birth to 4-6 months: a longitudinal prospective study based on daily records of feeding. <i>Acta Paediatr.</i> 2003;92:145-51.	IV
4	Abarin, T.,Yan Wu, Y.,Warrington, N.,Lye, S.,Pennell, C.,Briollais, L. The impact of breastfeeding on FTO-related BMI growth trajectories: an application to the Raine pregnancy cohort study. <i>Int J Epidemiol.</i> 2012;41:1650-60.	IV
5	Abou Samra, H.,Stevens, D.,Binkley, T.,Specker, B. Determinants of bone mass and size in 7-year-old former term, late-preterm, and preterm boys. <i>Osteoporos Int.</i> 2009;20:1903-10.	Design, IV
6	Aboud, F. E.,Akhter, S. A cluster-randomized evaluation of a responsive stimulation and feeding intervention in bangladesh. <i>Pediatrics.</i> 2011;127:e1191-7.	IV
7	Aboud, F. E.,Shafique, S.,Akhter, S. A responsive feeding intervention increases children's self-feeding and maternal responsiveness but not weight gain. <i>J Nutr.</i> 2009;139:1738-43.	IV
8	Adu-Afarwuah, S.,Lartey, A.,Brown, K. H.,Zlotkin, S.,Briend, A.,Dewey, K. G. Randomized comparison of 3 types of micronutrient supplements for home fortification of complementary foods in Ghana: effects on growth and motor development. <i>Am J Clin Nutr.</i> 2007;86:412-20.	IV
9	Agarwal, K. N.,Agarwal, D. K.,Gupta, A.,Bansal, A. K. Relationship of exclusive breast feeding for 6 mo to linear growth up to 18 mo of age. <i>Indian J Pediatr.</i> 2013;80:11-5.	Country
10	Aggarwal, A.,Arora, S.,Patwari, A. K. Breastfeeding among urban women of low-socioeconomic status: factors influencing introduction of supplemental feeds before four months of age. <i>Indian Pediatr.</i> 1998;35:269-73.	Design, IV,DV
11	Agostoni, C.,Fiocchi, A.,Riva, E.,Terracciano, L.,Serratud, T.,Martelli, A.,Lodi, F.,D'Auria, E.,Zuccotti, G.,Giovannini, M. Growth of infants with IgE-mediated cow's milk allergy fed different formulas in the complementary feeding period. <i>Pediatr Allergy Immunol.</i> 2007;18:599-606.	IV
12	Agostoni, C.,Grandi, F.,Gianni, M. L.,Silano, M.,Torcoletti, M.,Giovannini, M.,Riva, E. Growth patterns of breast fed and formula fed infants in the first 12 months of life: an Italian study. <i>Arch Dis Child.</i> 1999;81:395-9.	IV
13	Agostoni, C.,Grandi, F.,Scaglioni, S.,Gianni, M. L.,Torcoletti, M.,Radaelli, G.,Fiocchi, A.,Riva, E. Growth pattern of breastfed and nonbreastfed infants with atopic dermatitis in the first year of life. <i>Pediatrics.</i> 2000;106:E73.	IV
14	Agostoni,C.,Marangoni,F.,Lammardo,A. M.,Giovannini,M.,Riva,E.,Galli,C. Breastfeeding duration, milk fat composition and developmental indices at 1 year of life among breastfed infants. <i>Prostaglandins Leukot Essent Fatty Acids.</i> 2001;64:105-9.	IV

15	Agostoni,C.,Zuccotti,G. V.,Radaelli,G.,Besana,R.,Podesta,A.,Sterpa,A.,Rottoli,A.,Riva,E.,Giovannini,M. Docosaheptaenoic acid supplementation and time at achievement of gross motor milestones in healthy infants: a randomized, prospective, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. <i>Am J Clin Nutr.</i> 2009;89:64-70.	IV
16	Allen, L.,Shrimpton, R. The International Research on Infant Supplementation study: implications for programs and further research. <i>J Nutr.</i> 2005;135:666s-669s.	Design
17	Alm,B.,Aberg,N.,Erdes,L.,Mollborg,P.,Pettersson,R.,Norvenius,S. G.,Goksor,E.,Wennergren,G. Early introduction of fish decreases the risk of eczema in infants. <i>Arch Dis Child.</i> 2009;94:11-5.	DV
18	Almqvist,C.,Garden,F.,Xuan,W.,Mihirshahi,S.,Leeder,S. R.,Oddy,W.,Webb,K.,Marks,G. B. Omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acid exposure from early life does not affect atopy and asthma at age 5 years. <i>J Allergy Clin Immunol.</i> 2007;119:1438-44.	IV, DV
19	Alvarez-Uria, G.,Midde, M.,Pakam, R.,Bachu, L.,Naik, P. K. Effect of Formula Feeding and Breastfeeding on Child Growth, Infant Mortality, and HIV Transmission in Children Born to HIV-Infected Pregnant Women Who Received Triple Antiretroviral Therapy in a Resource-Limited Setting: Data from an HIV Cohort Study in India. <i>ISRN Pediatr.</i> 2012;2012:763591.	Health statu
20	Andersen, L. B.,Molgaard, C.,Michaelsen, K. F.,Carlsen, E. M.,Bro, R.,Pipper, C. B. Indicators of dietary patterns in Danish infants at 9 months of age. <i>Food Nutr Res.</i> 2015;59:27665.	Design
21	Andersen,A. D.,Michaelsen,K. F.,Hellgren,L. I.,Trolle,E.,Lauritzen,L. A randomized controlled intervention with fish oil versus sunflower oil from 9 to 18 months of age: exploring changes in growth and skinfold thicknesses. <i>Pediatr Res.</i> 2011;70:368-74.	IV
22	Andersen,L. B.,Pipper,C. B.,Trolle,E.,Bro,R.,Larnkjaer,A.,Carlsen,E. M.,Molgaard,C.,Michaelsen,K. F. Maternal obesity and offspring dietary patterns at 9 months of age. <i>Eur J Clin Nutr.</i> 2015;69:668-75.	DV
23	Anderson, G. H.,Morson-Pasut, L. A.,Bryan, H.,Cleghorn, G.,Tanaka, P.,Yeung, D.,Zimmerman, B. Age of introduction of cow's milk to infants. <i>J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr.</i> 1985;4:692-8.	Design
24	Anderson, V. P.,Cornwall, J.,Jack, S.,Gibson, R. S. Intakes from non-breastmilk foods for stunted toddlers living in poor urban villages of Phnom Penh, Cambodia, are inadequate. <i>Matern Child Nutr.</i> 2008;4:146-59.	Design, Health status
25	Andres, A.,Casey, P. H.,Cleves, M. A.,Badger, T. M. Body fat and bone mineral content of infants fed breast milk, cow's milk formula, or soy formula during the first year of life. <i>J Pediatr.</i> 2013;163:49-54.	IV
26	Andres, A.,Cleves, M. A.,Bellando, J. B.,Pivik, R. T.,Casey, P. H.,Badger, T. M. Developmental status of 1-year-old infants fed breast milk, cow's milk formula, or soy formula. <i>Pediatrics.</i> 2012;129:1134-40.	IV
27	Andrissi, L.,Mottini, G.,Sebastiani, V.,Boldrini, L.,Giuliani, A. Dietary habits and growth: an urban/rural comparison in the Andean region of Apurimac, Peru. <i>Ann Ist Super Sanita.</i> 2013;49:340-6.	IV
28	Anfield,L. Nutrition in the first year. <i>Midwife Health Visit Community Nurse.</i> 1985;21:161-4.	Design
29	Anzman-Frasca, S.,Liu, S.,Gates, K. M.,Paul, I. M.,Rovine, M. J.,Birch, L. L. Infants' Transitions out of a Fussing/Crying State Are Modifiable and Are Related to Weight Status. <i>Infancy.</i> 2013;18:662-686.	IV
30	Armstrong, J.,Reilly, J. J. Breastfeeding and lowering the risk of childhood obesity. <i>Lancet.</i> 2002;359:2003-4.	IV
31	Arsenault,J. E.,Havel,P. J.,Lopez de Romana,D.,Penny,M. E.,Van Loan,M. D.,Brown,K. H. Longitudinal measures of circulating leptin and ghrelin concentrations are associated with the growth of young Peruvian children but are not affected by zinc supplementation. <i>Am J Clin Nutr.</i> 2007;86:1111-9.	Health status

32	Arvas, A.,Elgormus, Y.,Gur, E.,Alikasifoglu, M.,Celebi, A. Iron status in breast-fed full-term infants. Turk J Pediatr.2000;42:22-6.	IV
33	Asha Bai, P. V.,Leela, M.,Subramaniam, V. R. Adequacy of breast milk for optimal growth of infants. Trop Geogr Med.1980;32:158-62.	IV
34	Assuncao, M. L.,Ferreira, H. S.,Coutinho, S. B.,Santos, L. M.,Horta, B. L. Protective effect of breastfeeding against overweight can be detected as early as the second year of life: a study of children from one of the most socially-deprived areas of Brazil. J Health Popul Nutr.2015;33:85-91.	Design, Health status, IV
35	Atladottir, H.,Thorsdottir, I. Energy intake and growth of infants in Iceland-a population with high frequency of breast-feeding and high birth weight. Eur J Clin Nutr.2000;54:695-701.	IV
36	Auestad,N. Infant nutrition--brain development--disease in later life. An introduction. Dev Neurosci.2000;22:472-3.	Design
37	Augusto,R. A.,Souza,J. M. Effectiveness of a supplementary feeding program in child weight gain. Rev Saude Publica.2010;44:793-801.	Design, IV
38	Axelsson,I. E.,Jakobsson,I.,Raiha,N. C. Formula with reduced protein content: effects on growth and protein metabolism during weaning. Pediatr Res.1988;24:297-301.	IV
39	Azad, M. B.,Konya, T.,Maughan, H.,Guttman, D. S.,Field, C. J.,Chari, R. S.,Sears, M. R.,Becker, A. B.,Scott, J. A.,Kozyrskyj, A. L. Gut microbiota of healthy Canadian infants: profiles by mode of delivery and infant diet at 4 months. Cmaj.2013;185:385-94.	DV
40	Badger, T. Effects of soy infant formula on growth and development in the first year of life. Food Nutr Bull.2013;34:252-3.	Design, IV
41	Bahamondes L,Bahamondes MV,Modesto W,Tilley IB,Magalhaes A,Pinto e Silva JL,Amaral E, Jr. Mishell DR. Effect of hormonal contraceptives during breastfeeding on infant's milk ingestion and growth. Fertil Steril.2013;100:445-50.	IV
42	Bai, K. I.,Sastry, V. N.,Reddy, C. C. A comparative study of feeding pattern of infants in rural and urban areas. Indian J Pediatr.1981;48:277-80.	Design, IV
43	Balaban, G.,Motta, M. E.,Silva, G. A. Early weaning and other potential risk factors for overweight among preschool children. Clinics (Sao Paulo).2010;65:181-7.	IV, Age
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567	Tann, S. P.,Wheeler, E. F. Food intakes and growth of young Chinese children in London. Community Med.1980;2:20-4.	IV, DV
568	Tantracheewathorn,S.,Lohajaroensub,S. Incidence and risk factors of iron deficiency anemia in term infants. J Med Assoc Thai.2005;88:45-51.	IV, DV
569	Tanzer F,Gumuser C. A study of the growth of 200 newborn babies for a period of 6 months according to the type of nutrition. Ann Trop Paediatr.1989;9:54-8.	IV
570	Tarrant, M.,Fong, D. Y.,Wu, K. M.,Lee, I. L.,Wong, E. M.,Sham, A.,Lam, C.,Dodgson, J. E. Breastfeeding and weaning practices among Hong Kong mothers: a prospective study. BMC Pregnancy Childbirth.2010;10:27.	DV
571	Taveras EM,Blackburn K,Gillman MW,Haines J,McDonald J,Price S,Oken E. First steps for mommy and me: a pilot intervention to improve nutrition and physical activity behaviors of postpartum mothers and their infants. Matern Child Health J.2011;15:1217-27.	IV
572	Tawia, S. Breastfeeding, brain structure and function, cognitive development and educational attainment. Breastfeed Rev.2013;21:15-20.	Design
573	Tawia, S. Childhood obesity and being breastfed. Breastfeed Rev.2013;21:42-8.	Design
574	Taylor,A.,Redworth,E. W.,Morgan,J. B. Influence of diet on iron, copper, and zinc status in children under 24 months of age. Biol Trace Elem Res.2004;97:197-214.	DV
575	Thakur, R.,Singh, M. G.,Chaudhary, S.,Manuja, N. Effect of mode of delivery and feeding practices on acquisition of oral Streptococcus mutans in infants. Int J Paediatr Dent.2012;22:197-202.	DV
576	Theron, M.,Amisshah, A.,Kleynhans, I. C.,Albertse, E.,MacIntyre, U. E. Inadequate dietary intake is not the cause of stunting amongst young children living in an informal settlement in Gauteng and rural Limpopo Province in South Africa: the NutriGro study. Public Health Nutr.2007;10:379-89.	Design
577	Thomson, J. L.,Tussing-Humphreys, L. M.,Goodman, M. H. Delta Healthy Sprouts: a randomized comparative effectiveness trial to promote maternal weight control and reduce childhood obesity in the Mississippi Delta. Contemp Clin Trials.2014;38:82-91.	Design, IV
578	Thorisdottir, B.,Gunnarsdottir, I.,Thorisdottir, A. V.,Palsson, G. I.,Halldorsson, T. I.,Thorsdottir, I. Nutrient intake in infancy and body mass index at six years in two population-based cohorts recruited before and after revision of infant dietary recommendations. Ann Nutr Metab.2013;63:145-51.	IV
579	Thorsdottir, I.,Gunnarsdottir, I.,Palsson, G. I. Birth weight, growth and feeding in infancy: relation to serum lipid concentration in 12-month-old infants. Eur J Clin Nutr.2003;57:1479-85.	IV, DV
580	Timby, N.,Domellof, E.,Hernell, O.,Lonnerdal, B.,Domellof, M. Neurodevelopment, nutrition, and growth until 12 mo of age in infants fed a low-energy, low-protein formula supplemented with bovine milk fat globule membranes: a randomized controlled trial. Am J Clin Nutr.2014;99:860-8.	IV
581	Townsend, E.,Pitchford, N. J. Baby knows best? The impact of weaning style on food preferences and body mass index in early childhood in a case-controlled sample. BMJ Open.2012;2:e000298.	IV
582	Tripathy, R.,Das, R. N.,Das, M. M.,Parija, A. C. Growth in the first year in children following IAP Policy on Infant Feeding. Indian Pediatr.2000;37:1051-9.	IV

583	Tulldahl, J.,Pettersson, K.,Andersson, S. W.,Hulthen, L. Mode of infant feeding and achieved growth in adolescence: early feeding patterns in relation to growth and body composition in adolescence. <i>Obes Res.</i> 1999;7:431-7.	Design
584	Umer, A.,Hamilton, C.,Britton, C. M.,Mullett, M. D.,John, C.,Neal, W.,Lilly, C. L. Association between Breastfeeding and Childhood Obesity: Analysis of a Linked Longitudinal Study of Rural Appalachian Fifth-Grade Children. <i>Child Obes.</i> 2015;11:449-55.	IV
585	Unni, J. C.,Richard, J. Growth and morbidity of breast-fed and artificially-fed infants in urban south Indian families. <i>J Trop Pediatr.</i> 1988;34:179-81.	IV
586	Vail, B.,Prentice, P.,Dunger, D. B.,Hughes, I. A.,Acerini, C. L.,Ong, K. K. Age at Weaning and Infant Growth: Primary Analysis and Systematic Review. <i>Journal of Pediatrics.</i> 2015;167:317-324.e1.	Design
587	Valman, H. B. The first year of life: feeding and feeding problems. <i>Br Med J.</i> 1980;280:457-60.	Design
588	van der Willik, E. M.,Vrijkotte, T. G.,Altenburg, T. M.,Gademan, M. G.,Kist-van Holthe, J. Exclusively breastfed overweight infants are at the same risk of childhood overweight as formula fed overweight infants. <i>Arch Dis Child.</i> 2015;100:932-7.	IV
589	van Dijk, C. E.,Innis, S. M. Growth-curve standards and the assessment of early excess weight gain in infancy. <i>Pediatrics.</i> 2009;123:102-8.	IV, DV
590	van Eijsden, M.,Meijers, C. M.,Jansen, J. E.,de Kroon, M. L.,Vrijkotte, T. G. Cultural variation in early feeding pattern and maternal perceptions of infant growth. <i>Br J Nutr.</i> 2015;114:481-8.	DV
591	van Rheenen,P. F.,de Moor,L. T.,Eschbach,S.,Brabin,B. J. A cohort study of haemoglobin and zinc protoporphyrin levels in term Zambian infants: effects of iron stores at birth, complementary food and placental malaria. <i>Eur J Clin Nutr.</i> 2008;62:1379-87.	Country
592	van t Hof Msc, M. A. The influence of breastfeeding and complementary foods on growth until three years of age in the Euro-Growth Study. <i>Pediatrics.</i> 2000;106:1281a-1281.	Design
593	Vazir,S.,Engle,P.,Balakrishna,N.,Griffiths,P. L.,Johnson,S. L.,Creed-Kanashiro,H.,Fernandez Rao,S.,Shroff,M. R.,Bentley,M. E. Cluster-randomized trial on complementary and responsive feeding education to caregivers found improved dietary intake, growth and development among rural Indian toddlers. <i>Matern Child Nutr.</i> 2013;9:99-117.	IV
594	Veena SR,Krishnaveni GV,Srinivasan K,Wills AK,Hill JC,Kurpad AV,Muthayya S,Karat SC,Nalinakshi M,Fall CH. Infant feeding practice and childhood cognitive performance in South India. <i>Arch Dis Child.</i> 2010;95:347-54.	Country
595	Veena, S. R.,Krishnaveni, G. V.,Wills, A. K.,Hill, J. C.,Karat, S. C.,Fall, C. H. Glucose tolerance and insulin resistance in Indian children: relationship to infant feeding pattern. <i>Diabetologia.</i> 2011;54:2533-7.	Country
596	Vehapoglu, A.,Yazici, M.,Demir, A. D.,Turkmen, S.,Nursoy, M.,Ozkaya, E. Early infant feeding practice and childhood obesity: the relation of breast-feeding and timing of solid food introduction with childhood obesity. <i>J Pediatr Endocrinol Metab.</i> 2014;27:1181-7.	Design
597	Venancio, S. I.,Saldiva, S. R.,Mondini, L.,Levy, R. B.,Escuder, M. M. Early interruption of exclusive breastfeeding and associated factors, state of Sao Paulo, Brazil. <i>J Hum Lact.</i> 2008;24:168-74.	Design, DV
598	Verd S,Barriuso L,Gich I,Gutierrez A,Nadal-Amat J,Carreras E. Risk of early breastfeeding cessation among symmetrical, small for gestational age infants. <i>Ann Hum Biol.</i> 2013;40:146-51.	Health status, DV
599	Victora, C. G.,Matijasevich, A.,Santos, I. S.,Barros, A. J.,Horta, B. L.,Barros, F. C. Breastfeeding and feeding patterns in three birth cohorts in Southern Brazil: trends and differentials. <i>Cad Saude Publica.</i> 2008;24 Suppl 3:S409-16.	IV, DV
600	Victora,C. G.,Vaughan,J. P.,Martines,J. C.,Barcelos,L. B. Is prolonged breast-feeding associated with malnutrition?. <i>Am J Clin Nutr.</i> 1984;39:307-14.	IV

601	Villalpando, S. Feeding mode, infections, and anthropometric status in early childhood. <i>Pediatrics</i> .2000;106:1282-3.	Design
602	Virtanen, S. M.,Laara, E.,Hypponen, E.,Reijonen, H.,Rasanen, L.,Aro, A.,Knip, M.,Ilonen, J.,Akerblom, H. K. Cow's milk consumption, HLA-DQB1 genotype, and type 1 diabetes: a nested case-control study of siblings of children with diabetes. <i>Childhood diabetes in Finland study group. Diabetes</i> .2000;49:912-7.	DV
603	Virtanen, S. M.,Rasanen, L.,Ylonen, K.,Aro, A.,Clayton, D.,Langholz, B.,Pitkaniemi, J.,Savilahti, E.,Lounamaa, R.,Tuomilehto, J.,et al.,. Early introduction of dairy products associated with increased risk of IDDM in Finnish children. The Childhood in Diabetes in Finland Study Group. <i>Diabetes</i> .1993;42:1786-90.	DV
604	Vobecky,J. S.,Vobecky,J.,Shapcott,D.,Demers,P. P. Nutrient intake patterns and nutritional status with regard to relative weight in early infancy. <i>Am J Clin Nutr</i> .1983;38:730-8.	IV
605	Wandel, M.,Fagerli, R. Aa,Olsen, P. T.,Borch-Iohnsen, B.,Ek, J. Iron status and weaning practices among Norwegian and immigrant infants. <i>Nutrition Research</i> .1996;16:251-265.	Design
606	Wang RJ,Trehan I,LaGrone LN,Weisz AJ,Thakwalakwa CM,Maleta KM,Manary MJ. Investigation of food acceptability and feeding practices for lipid nutrient supplements and blended flours used to treat moderate malnutrition. <i>J Nutr Educ Behav</i> .2013;45:258-63.	Health status, Country
607	Watt, R. G.,Tull, K. I.,Hardy, R.,Wiggins, M.,Kelly, Y.,Molloy, B.,Dowler, E.,Apps, J.,McGlone, P. Effectiveness of a social support intervention on infant feeding practices: randomised controlled trial. <i>J Epidemiol Community Health</i> .2009;63:156-62.	IV, DV
608	Weber, M.,Grote, V.,Closa-Monasterolo, R.,Escribano, J.,Langhendries, J. P.,Dain, E.,Giovannini, M.,Verduci, E.,Gruszfeld, D.,Socha, P.,Koletzko, B. Lower protein content in infant formula reduces BMI and obesity risk at school age: follow-up of a randomized trial. <i>Am J Clin Nutr</i> .2014;99:1041-51.	IV
609	Weijs, P. J.,Kool, L. M.,van Baar, N. M.,van der Zee, S. C. High beverage sugar as well as high animal protein intake at infancy may increase overweight risk at 8 years: a prospective longitudinal pilot study. <i>Nutr J</i> .2011;10:95.	IV
610	Wen, L. M.,Baur, L. A.,Simpson, J. M.,Xu, H.,Hayes, A. J.,Hardy, L. L.,Williams, M.,Rissel, C. Sustainability of Effects of an Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Trial Over Time: A Further 3-Year Follow-up of the Healthy Beginnings Trial. <i>JAMA Pediatr</i> .2015;169:543-51.	IV
611	West, C. E.,Hernell, O.,Andersson, Y.,Sjostedt, M.,Hammarstrom, M. L. Probiotic effects on T-cell maturation in infants during weaning. <i>Clin Exp Allergy</i> .2012;42:540-9.	IV, DV
612	Westphal, R.,Phillips, G.,Irwig, L. M. Infant care and feeding in an urban black population. <i>S Afr Med J</i> .1981;60:778-81.	DV, Date
613	Weyermann, M.,Rothenbacher, D.,Brenner, H. Duration of breastfeeding and risk of overweight in childhood: a prospective birth cohort study from Germany. <i>Int J Obes (Lond)</i> .2006;30:1281-7.	IV
614	Wharf,S. G.,Fox,T. E.,Fairweather-Tait,S. J.,Cook,J. D. Factors affecting iron stores in infants 4-18 months of age. <i>Eur J Clin Nutr</i> .1997;51:504-9.	Design
615	Whitehead, R. G.,Paul, A. A.,Ahmed, E. A. Weaning practices in the United Kingdom and variations in anthropometric development. <i>Acta Paediatr Scand Suppl</i> .1986;323:14-23.	Design, IV
616	Whitehead, R. G.,Paul, A. A. Infant growth and human milk requirements. A fresh approach. <i>Lancet</i> .1981;2:161-3.	IV
617	Whitten, C. F.,Stewart, R. A. The effect of dietary sodium in infancy on blood pressure and related factors. <i>Studies of infants fed</i>	IV



	salted and unsalted diets for five months at eight months and eight years of age. <i>Acta Paediatr Scand Suppl.</i> 1980;279:1-17.	
618	Wiberger, M.,Eiben, G.,Lissner, L.,Mehlig, K.,Papoutsou, S.,Hunsberger, M. Children consuming milk cereal drink are at increased risk for overweight: The IDEFICS Sweden study, on behalf of the IDEFICS Consortium. <i>Scand J Public Health.</i> 2014;42:518-24.	Design
619	Wigg, N. R.,Tong, S.,McMichael, A. J.,Baghurst, P. A.,Vimpani, G.,Roberts, R. Does breastfeeding at six months predict cognitive development?. <i>Aust N Z J Public Health.</i> 1998;22:232-6.	IV
620	Wijga,A.,Vyas,U.,Vyas,A.,Sharma,V.,Pandya,N.,Nabarro,D. Feeding, illness and nutritional status of young children in rural Gujarat. <i>Hum Nutr Clin Nutr.</i> 1983;37:255-69.	Design, IV
621	Williams, D. M.,Martin, R. M.,Davey Smith, G.,Alberti, K. G.,Ben-Shlomo, Y.,McCarthy, A. Associations of infant nutrition with insulin resistance measures in early adulthood: evidence from the Barry-Caerphilly Growth (BCG) study. <i>PLoS One.</i> 2012;7:e34161.	IV, DV
622	Williams, J.,Wolff, A.,Daly, A.,MacDonald, A.,Aukett, A.,Booth, I. W. Iron supplemented formula milk related to reduction in psychomotor decline in infants from inner city areas: randomised study. <i>Bmj.</i> 1999;318:693-7.	IV
623	Winick, M. The role of early nutrition in subsequent development and optimal future health. <i>Bull N Y Acad Med.</i> 1989;65:1020-5.	Design
624	Winkelstein,M. L. Overfeeding in infancy: the early introduction of solid foods. <i>Pediatr Nurs.</i> 1984;10:205-8, 236.	Design
625	Wölfle, J. Growth and puberty in German children: is there still a positive secular trend? In reply..Consumption of milk as a vital factor in growth development. <i>Melnik B, Dtsch Arztebl</i> 2009, volume 206. <i>Deutsches Aerzteblatt International.</i> 2009;106:656-656.	Design
626	Wright, C. M.,Parkinson, K. N.,Drewett, R. F. Why are babies weaned early? Data from a prospective population based cohort study. <i>Arch Dis Child.</i> 2004;89:813-6.	DV
627	Wright, C. M.,Parkinson, K.,Scott, J. Breast-feeding in a UK urban context: who breast-feeds, for how long and does it matter?. <i>Public Health Nutr.</i> 2006;9:686-91.	IV
628	Wright, M. J.,Bentley, M. E.,Mendez, M. A.,Adair, L. S. The interactive association of dietary diversity scores and breast-feeding status with weight and length in Filipino infants aged 6-24 months. <i>Public Health Nutr.</i> 2015;18:1762-73.	Country
629	Yew, K. S.,Webber, B.,Hodges, J.,Carter, N. J. Clinical inquiries: are there any known health risks to early introduction of solids to an infant's diet?. <i>J Fam Pract.</i> 2009;58:219-20.	Design
630	Young RJ,Antonson DL,Ferguson PW,Murray ND,Merkel K,Moore TE. Neonatal and infant feeding: effect on bone density at 4 years. <i>J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr.</i> 2005;41:88-93.	Design
631	Yousafzai, A. K.,Rasheed, M. A.,Rizvi, A.,Armstrong, R.,Bhutta, Z. A. Effect of integrated responsive stimulation and nutrition interventions in the Lady Health Worker programme in Pakistan on child development, growth, and health outcomes: a cluster-randomised factorial effectiveness trial. <i>Lancet.</i> 2014;384:1282-93.	Country
632	Ystrom, E. Breastfeeding cessation and symptoms of anxiety and depression: a longitudinal cohort study. <i>BMC Pregnancy Childbirth.</i> 2012;12:36.	IV, DV
633	Zadik Z,Borondukov E,Zung A,Reifen R. Adult height and weight of breast-fed and bottle-fed Israeli infants. <i>J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr.</i> 2003;37:462-7.	IV
634	Zaman, S.,Jalil, F.,Saleemi, M. A.,Mellander, L.,Ashraf, R. N.,Hanson, L. A. Changes in feeding patterns affect growth in children 0-24 months of age living in socioeconomically different areas of Lahore, Pakistan. <i>Adv Exp Med Biol.</i> 2002;503:49-56.	Country

635	Zaman,S.,Ashraf,R. N.,Martines,J. Training in complementary feeding counselling of healthcare workers and its influence on maternal behaviours and child growth: a cluster-randomized controlled trial in Lahore, Pakistan. J Health Popul Nutr.2008;26:210-22.	IV, Country
636	Zavaleta,N.,Kvistgaard,A. S.,Graverholt,G.,Respicio,G.,Guija,H.,Valencia,N.,Lonnerdal,B. Efficacy of an MFGM-enriched complementary food in diarrhea, anemia, and micronutrient status in infants. J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr.2011;53:561-8.	DV
637	Zhang,J.,Shi,L.,Chen,D. F.,Wang,J.,Wang,Y. Effectiveness of an educational intervention to improve child feeding practices and growth in rural China: updated results at 18 months of age. Matern Child Nutr.2013;9:118-29.	IV
638	Zhu, B.,Zhang, J.,Qiu, L.,Binns, C.,Shao, J.,Zhao, Y.,Zhao, Z. Breastfeeding Rates and Growth Charts--the Zhejiang Infant Feeding Trial. Int J Environ Res Public Health.2015;12:7337-47.	IV, DV
639	Ziegler, E. E.,Fields, D. A.,Chernausek, S. D.,Steenhout, P.,Grathwohl, D.,Jeter, J. M.,Nelson, S. E.,Haschke, F. Adequacy of Infant Formula With Protein Content of 1.6 g/100 kcal for Infants Between 3 and 12 Months. J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr.2015;61:596-603.	IV
640	Ziegler,E. E.,Fomon,S. J.,Nelson,S. E.,Rebouche,C. J.,Edwards,B. B.,Rogers,R. R.,Lehman,L. J. Cow milk feeding in infancy: further observations on blood loss from the gastrointestinal tract. J Pediatr.1990;116:11-8.	IV, DV
641	Zive, M. M.,McKay, H.,Frank-Spohrer, G. C.,Broyles, S. L.,Nelson, J. A.,Nader, P. R. Infant-feeding practices and adiposity in 4-y-old Anglo- and Mexican-Americans. Am J Clin Nutr.1992;55:1104-8.	Design
642	Zutavern, A.,Brockow, I.,Schaaf, B.,von Berg, A.,Diez, U.,Borte, M.,Kraemer, U.,Herbarth, O.,Behrendt, H.,Wichmann, H. E.,Heinrich, J. Timing of solid food introduction in relation to eczema, asthma, allergic rhinitis, and food and inhalant sensitization at the age of 6 years: results from the prospective birth cohort study LISA. Pediatrics.2008;121:e44-52.	DV

<sup>1</sup> Abbreviations: DV- Dependent variable; IV- Independent variable/exposure/intervention

## APPENDIX

The table below describes study and sample characteristics from the included articles, organized by study design then alphabetical order of the first author's last name.

**Supplemental Table S4. Description of the evidence examining timing of introduction of CFB and growth, size, and body composition.**

Randomized controlled trials		
<b>Bainbridge, 1996</b> Randomized Controlled Trial; U.S. <u><b>Sample Size:</b></u> Baseline N: 41 Analytic N: 41 Attrition: 0% Power Analysis/Sample Size Calculation: NR <u><b>Sex:</b></u> ~49% Female <u><b>Race/Ethnicity:</b></u> 73.2% White, 26.8% Black <u><b>Background Diet:</b></u> All FF with same formula from birth to 16wk	<u><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b></u> Age of CFB introduction: CFB at 16wk vs. EFF until 26wk CFB: Rice cereal from 16-26wk; Both groups were FF and the EFF group continued exclusive use of formula from 16-26wk <b>Age:</b> 4mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Food record, 3d <u><b>Outcomes:</b></u> Weight; Length; Body composition (Adiposity) <b>Age:</b> 16wk, 26wk, 16-26wk <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Body composition: Skinfold thickness: calipers; abdominal, MUAC, triceps, mid-thigh, chest, subscapular, suprailiac Weight, length: NR, digital scale and length board HC: NR <u><b>Confounders accounted for:</b></u> N/A Other: At baseline, reported NSD in sex, race/ethnicity, birth weight, gestational age; and all were FF	<u><b>Limitations:</b></u> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on education, SES, or maternal age, early CFB group was 1cm shorter than EBF group at baseline; Participants (infants/mothers) were not blinded; Cannot determine if investigators were blinded For technical reasons due to sample size limitations, outcome measurements were available for n:23 in group receiving CFB at 16wk group and n:18 in the group delaying CFB to 26wk Sample size was very small
<b>Jonsdottir, 2012</b> Randomized Controlled Trial; Iceland <u><b>Sample Size:</b></u> Baseline N: 119 Analytic N: 100	<u><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b></u> EBF infants were randomized to one of 2 groups: EBF: Remained exclusively BF until 6mo CFB: Receive CFB starting at age 4mo CFB: Foods other than BM; Diaries indicated every new food added to CFB infant diet from 4mo to 6mo	<u><b>Limitations:</b></u> Cannot determine if investigators or outcome assessors were blinded; Participants were not blinded; Outcome assessment methods were not valid/reliable (non-duplicate and

<p>Attrition: 16%  Sample Size Calculation: N=50  (to detect differences in Fe status)  <u><b>Sex:</b></u>  55% Female  <u><b>Race/Ethnicity:</b></u>  NR  <u><b>Background Diet:</b></u>  All infants were EBF up to 4mo, and continue to be BF through 6mo</p>	<p><u><b>Age:</b></u> 4mo  <u><b>Assessment Methods:</b></u>  Maternal diet diary; Food record, 3d, weighed  <u><b>Outcomes:</b></u>  Weigh; Length; HC  <u><b>Age:</b></u> birth-6mo; 4-6mo  <u><b>Assessment Methods:</b></u>  Weight: Seca scale; used for WAZ by WHO standards  Length: measuring board; used for LAZ by WHO standards  HC: non-stretchable tape  <u><b>Confounders accounted for:</b></u>  Feeding practices: All EBF  Gestational age: All full-term  Other: Delivery mode</p>	<p>various assessors; data collected in routine health care visits at health centers)</p>
<p><u><b>Jonsdottir, 2013</b></u>  Randomized Controlled Trial; Iceland  <u><b>Sample Size:</b></u>  Baseline N = 119 (N=100 completed the intervention)  Analytic N = 54-78  Attrition = 34.5%  Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: N=66 (to detect an 11.2 point difference in the Brigance screening test at 30-35mo, 80% power)  <u><b>Sex:</b></u>  54.5% Female  <u><b>Race/Ethnicity:</b></u>  NR  <u><b>Background Diet:</b></u>  In Iceland, 50% of infants are</p>	<p><u><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b></u>  EBF infants were randomized to one of 2 groups:  EBF: Remained exclusively BF until 6mo  CFB: Receive CFB starting at age 4mo  CFB: Foods other than BM; Diaries indicated every new food added to CFB infant diet from 4mo to 6mo  <u><b>Age:</b></u> 4mo  <u><b>Assessment Methods:</b></u>  Maternal diet diary; Food record, 3d, weighed  <u><b>Outcomes:</b></u>  HC  <u><b>Age:</b></u> birth-18mo  <u><b>Assessment Methods:</b></u>  HC: gain; measured with non-stretchable tape (Jonsdottir, 2012)  <u><b>Confounders accounted for:</b></u>  Feeding practices: All EBF  Gestational age: All full-term  Other: Delivery mode</p>	<p><u><b>Limitations:</b></u>  Cannot determine if investigators or outcome assessors were blinded; Participants were not blinded; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome measurements (non-duplicate and various assessors; lack of detail for HC; data collected in routine health care visits at health centers)  Authors note that the analysis may have been underpowered (small sample size) to detect potential small differences in developmental outcomes</p>

EBF through 4mo and 35% through 5mo		
<p><b>Jonsdottir, 2014</b> Randomized Controlled Trial; Iceland</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 119 Analytic N: 100 Attrition: 16% Sample Size Calculation: N=50 (to detect differences in Fe status)</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 54.5% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> In Iceland, 50% of infants are EBF through 4mo and 35% through 5mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> EBF infants were randomized to one of 2 groups: EBF: Remained exclusively BF until 6mo CFB: Receive CFB starting at age 4mo CFB: Foods other than BM; Diaries indicated every new food added to CFB infant diet from 4mo to 6mo</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 4mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Maternal diet diary; Food record, 3d, weighed</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status; Weight; Length; HC</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 18, 29-38mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight status: risk for overweight classified as &gt;1SD above BMI-for-age (WHO); Overweight classified as &gt;2SD above; Obesity classified as &gt;3SD Weight: via Seca scale; WAZ and <math>\Delta</math> WAZ by WHO standards Length: via measuring board/body meter; LAZ and <math>\Delta</math> LAZ by WHO standards HC: non-stretchable tape</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Feeding practices: All EBF Gestational age: All full-term Other: Delivery mode</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Groups differed in mode of delivery, which was not adjusted for in analyses; Cannot determine if investigators or outcome assessors were blinded; Participants were not blinded; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome measurements (non-duplicate and various assessors; data collected in routine health care visits at health centers) Relatively small sample-size</p>
<p><b>Wells, 2012</b> Randomized Controlled Trial; Iceland</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> CFB Group Baseline N: 61 EBF Group Baseline N: 58</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> CFB Group: Advised to introduce CFB at 4mo (no specific advice regarding type/amount of CFB to introduce) EBF Group: Advised to exclusively BF through 6mo</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 4-6mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Food records, 3d</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Groups differed at baseline on multiparity, vaginal delivery; cannot determine whether these differences were adjusted for in subsequent analyses; Participants, outcome assessors were not blinded; cannot determine whether investigators were</p>

<p>CFB Group Analytic N: 50 EBF Group Analytic N: 50 Attrition: 16% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: N=50/group to detect differences of 75 g/d with 80% power and 5% significance <b><u>Sex:</u></b> 50% Female <b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR <b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> EBF: 100% at baseline</p>	<p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Body composition (Adiposity; BMI); Weight; Length, HCz <b>Age:</b> 6mo <b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lean/fat mass: Calculated based on total body water</li> <li>• BMI: Calculated using measured weight, length</li> </ul> Weight: Measured by study personnel Length: Measured by study personnel, recumbent HC: z-score, measured by study personnel <b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> None</p>	<p>blinded; Cannot determine the validity/reliability of outcome assessment (i.e., single vs multiple measures); Adequacy of statistical methods insufficient (no description of which potential confounders were included in analyses)  Data from the RCT in Jonsdottir, 2012; Jonsdottir, 2013; Jonsdottir, 2014</p>
<b>Prospective cohort studies</b>		
<p><b>Abraham, 2012</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Scotland <b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 5,217 Analytic N: 4,493 (completed survey at 9-12mo); 3,994 (completed outcomes at 45- 48mo) Attrition: 13.9% Power Analysis: NR  <b><u>Sex:</u></b> NR <b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 4% non-white ethnic group (Bradshaw, 2007) <b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 61.0% ever BF, 39.0% never BF</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: 0-3 vs. 4-5; 0-3 vs. 6-10mo <b>Age:</b> 0-24mo <b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Caregiver self-report at 9-12mo  <b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status (Overweight/obesity) <b>Age:</b> 45-48mo <b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight status: risk of overweight/obese BMI <math>\geq 1.04</math>, or not overweight/obese <math>\leq 1.04</math> (UK 1990 ref. curves BMIZ cut-off) Weight, height: NR_ <b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> SES: X Birth size: X (Birth weight)</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Key confounders from the analytic framework were NR or adjusted for in analyses including sex, race/ethnicity, maternal age, or gestational age; Cannot determine if outcome assessors were blinded, primary interviewers were unblinded  Other: IV/Exposure was self-report; Bradshaw, 2007 summarizes Sweep 1 baseline characteristics  -</p>

<p><b>Agras, 1990</b> Prospective Cohort Study; U.S.</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 99 Analytic N: 54 Attrition: 45% Power Analysis/Sample Size Calculation: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> BF and/or FF</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: Weeks, continuous</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 2, 4, 12, 20wk</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Maternal report</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> BMI; skinfold thickness</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 1, 2, 3 a/o 6y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition: skin-fold thickness, and log BMI (more normally distributed) calculated from measures Weight, height: measured in the laboratory</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X Sex: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X (Birth BMI) Other: parent BMI, # feedings/d; sucking pressure, interval of sucking bursts, caloric intake during suckling, active feeding time</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Due to limited information provided about methods,; Did not adjust for potential key confounders (SES, maternal age, race/ethnicity, gestational age); Did not account for high attrition rate (~45%) Log birth BMI was used as birth size variable in regression; Only assessed infant feeding practices through 5mo of age_ Cannot rule out reverse causality (vigorous BF may influence timing CFB introduction)</p>
<p><b>Atkins, 2016</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Australia</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 542 Analytic N: 423 Attrition: 22% Power Analysis/Sample Size Calculation: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> ~47% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 2% never BF, 46% BF at 9mo, 9% BF at 20mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;6 vs. &gt;6mo</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 3mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> 3, 24-h recalls by parent</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight; Height</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 9mo, 20mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight, length: Measured by trained staff using digital scales and calibrated measuring mat</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> None</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine reliability/validity of outcome assessment (used measuring mat, not length board); Did not adjust for any potential key confounders (education, SES, sex, maternal age, race/ethnicity, feeding practices, birth size, gestational age) Cannot determine if analyses adjusted for differences in birth weight and</p>

		length differed between groups; weight/length at 9mo not shown) *Weight/length were secondary oucomes
<p><b>Ay, 2008</b> Prospective Cohort Study; The Netherlands</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 1232 Analytic N: 1012 Attrition: 17.9% Power Analysis/Sample Size Calculation: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 48.2% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 100% "Dutch ethnicity"</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> ~90% ever BF, duration of BF = ~5mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;5 or &gt;5mo CFB: Fruit snack</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 2, 6, and 12mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Caregiver questionnaire</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Body composition (Adiposity)</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 24mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition: sum of skinfold thickness (biceps, triceps, suprailiacal, subscapular) measured by study personnel using calipers</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Gestational age: X Other: Smoking</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Did not adjust for any key confounders (SES, race/ethnicity/feeding practices, birth size)</p>
<p><b>Baird, 2008</b> Prospective Cohort Study; U.K.</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N = 1,973 Analytic N = 1,740 at 6mo; 1335 at 12mo Attrition = 11.8%; 32.4% at 12mo Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: early (&lt;3, 3, at 4mo) or later (5mo+) CFB: Any other food aside from HM or HM substitute; 99% introduced CFB &lt;5mo</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 12mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Timing: Maternal report Type: FFQ over 7d at 6mo; FFQ over 28d at 12mo; Dietary patterns identified by PCA</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline; Unclear whether outcome assessors were blinded to the infants' feeding histories; Did not adjust for potential key confounders (SES, maternal age, race/ethnicity, feeding practices, birth size, gestational age)</p>



<p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 46.9% female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 94% white</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 0-6mo: 7.5% BF; ~21% FF, ~71.5% MF combination of BF and FF assessed via caregiver- report at 6mo</p>	<p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Body composition; Weight; Length</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 6mo, 0-6mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight: digital scale; crude and change in weight SD score from 0-6mo and 6-12mo Length: infantometer; crude and change in length SD score from 0-6mo and 6-12mo Body composition: triceps and subscapular skinfold calipers; crude and thickness SD score from 0-6mo and 6-12mo</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X Sex: X Gestational age: X Other: Parity; Smoking</p>	<p>BF duration and infant diet was retrospectively self-reported by mothers at 6 and 12mo, thus may have been biased; ethnic minorities were underrepresented in this sample.</p>
<p><b><u>Baker, 2004</u></b> Prospective Cohort Study; Denmark</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N = 5,845 Analytic N = 3,768 Attrition = 36.5% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> ~49.5% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> Duration of full BF: ~16wk Duration of BF: 32wk</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;16 vs. &gt;16wk CFB: Mush or porridge</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 12mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Maternal report</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> Birth-1y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight: gain birth-1y based on maternal report from the "green book" health record from physicians</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X SES: X (income) Sex: X Maternal age: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X (Birth weight)</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on race/ethnicity; Outcome assessors were not blinded-both the independent and dependent variables were measured using non-validated methods (maternal self-report); Did not account for high loss to follow-up (&gt;35%); Did not adjust for potential key confounder of race/ethnicity Did not collect types-amounts of CFB or composition, or energy expenditure, or timing of introduction of formula</p>

	<p>Gestational age: X  Other: Parity; Delivery mode; Infant age; Maternal occupation; Spouse; Gestational weight gain; Smoking; Infant length at 1y (reverse causality)</p>	
<p><b>Barrera, 2016</b>  Prospective Cohort Study; United States  <b>Sample Size:</b>  Baseline N: 1542  Analytic N: 1181  Attrition: ~23.4%  Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR    <b>Sex:</b>  50.1% Female  <b>Race/Ethnicity:</b>  88.3% non-Hispanic white; 3% non-Hispanic black; 5% Hispanic; 2.3% other  <b>Background Diet:</b>  NR</p>	<p><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b>  Age of CFB introduction: &lt;4, 4–&lt;6, and ≥6mo  CFB: Solid foods included dairy foods other than milk (e.g., yogurt, cheese, and ice cream); soy foods other than soy milk (e.g. Tofu, frozen soy desserts); baby cereal; other cereals and starches (e.g., breakfa  <b>Age:</b> 4-6mo  <b>Assessment Methods:</b>  Caregiver report  <b>Outcomes:</b>  Weight status  <b>Age:</b> 6y  <b>Assessment Methods:</b>  Weight status: risk of obesity based on age- and sex-specific BMI%tile 2000 CDC; BMI calculated from height and weight measured by mothers  <b>Confounders accounted for:</b>  Education: X  SES: X  Sex: X  Maternal age: X  Race/ethnicity: X  Feeding practices: X  Birth size: X  Gestational age: X  Other: Parity; Maternal BMI; Marital status; Infant intake of CFB</p>	<p><b>Limitations:</b>  Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Outcome assessors were not blinded, both the independent and dependent variables were maternal self-report; Non-validated measures used to assess outcome Maternal self-report of IV/Exposure and Outcomes; Sample not nationally representative</p>
<p><b>Barton, 2002</b>  Prospective Cohort Study; U.S.  <b>Sample Size:</b>  Baseline N = 52</p>	<p><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b>  Age of CFB introduction: &lt;4, &gt;4mo  CFB: "Solid foods" including infant cereal, vegetables, fruits, and &lt;6oz fruit juice/d</p>	<p><b>Limitations:</b>  Cannot determine whether groups differed at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine</p>

<p>Analytic N = 52 Attrition = 0% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 46% BF, 54% FF at birth 33% BF, 67% FF at 1-2mo 83% received CFB &lt;4mo</p>	<p><b>Age:</b> 4-6mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Caregiver report</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight; Length; HC</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 1-2mo; 4-6mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight: measured by study personnel on balance-beam scale Height: measured by trained personnel, on standard length board HC: measured by study personnel with nonfabric measuring tape</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> None Other: Weights, lengths, and HC at baseline NSD between groups</p>	<p>whether outcome assessors were blinded; Length of follow-up varied from 4 to 6mo of age; Cannot determined validity/reliability of measures used to assess outcomes (single vs. multiple measures); Did not adjust for any potential key confounders (including education, SES, sex, maternal age, race/ethnicity, feeding practices, birth size, gestational age)</p> <p>Post-hoc tests suggest marginal significance</p> <p>Did not adjust for baseline values though weight, length, and HC at 1-2mo were similar between groups; Groups were unbalanced (40 infants in the CFB &lt;4mo group vs. 8 infants in the &gt;4mo group)</p> <p>Cannot rule out reverse causality (group already not gaining weight well) Very short term followup</p>
<p><b>Butte, 2000</b> Prospective Cohort Study; United States</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N = 76 Analytic N = 72 Attrition = 5.3% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 56.6% Female</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: Continuous CFB: Solids other than formula, milk, juice, water, and vitamin-mineral supplements</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 3, 6, 12, and 24mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Food record, 3d, weighed</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Body composition; Weight; Length; Circumferences (head, chest, arm, thigh)</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 6-24mo</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups differed at baseline on key characteristics; Did not adjust for potential key confounders (education, SES, maternal age, race/ethnicity, birth size, gestational age)</p>

<p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 72.4% White, 9.2% Black, 14.5% Hispanic, 3.9% Asian</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> BF and FF infants were analyzed separately Mean age of introduction of solids was ~5mo for BF infants and ~4mo for FF infants</p>	<p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fat mass, fat-free mass calculated using a multicomponent body composition model based on total body water by deuterium dilution, total body potassium by whole body counting, and bone mineral content by DXA</li> <li>• Skinfold thickness (triceps, subscapular, flank, quadriceps): measured by study personnel</li> </ul> <p>Weight, length, circumferences (head, chest, arm, thigh) measured by study personnel</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Sex: X Feeding practices: X Other: Baseline anthropometric values</p>	
<p><b><u>Cantoral, 2016</u></b> Prospective Cohort Study; Mexico</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 622 (enrolled in F/U) Analytic N: 227 Attrition: ~64% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 54% female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 31% at least partial BF; 73% introduced to SSB &lt;12mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: ≤12 vs &gt;12mo CFB: SSB: sum of daily intake of soda, commercial fruit drinks, flavored water with sugar; Not including natural fruit or vegetable juice <b>Age:</b> 12mo; every 6mo until 5y; at 8-14y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> 116-item FFQ</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status; WC</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 8-14y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight status: risk of obesity classified as BMI&gt;2 SD of z-score; BMI from measured weight (digital scale to 0.1kg) and height (stadiometer to 0.1cm)</p> <p>WC: measuring tape to 0.1cm for abdominal obesity: WC≥ 90th %tile</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> SES: X</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups differed at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine if outcome assessors were blinded; Did not account for high attrition rate; Did not adjust for key confounders of education, maternal age, race/ethnicity, birth size or gestational age Risk for measurement error associated with FFQ; Assumes that SSB intake was constant during the months evaluated on FFQ</p>

	Sex: X Feeding practices: X Other: non-SSB intake, TV watching, physical activity, maternal obesity at 12mo post-partum	
<b>Carruth, 2000</b> Prospective Cohort Study; U.S. <b>Sample Size:</b> Baseline N = 98 Analytic N = 94 Attrition = 4.1% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: Use of an incomplete block design maintained statistical power <b>Sex:</b> 48.0% female (Skinner, 1997) <b>Race/Ethnicity:</b> 100% White <b>Background Diet:</b> 83% any BF, 33% EBF at 4mo, 33% MF at 4mo; 12% EBF at 6mo ~64% CFB by 4mo; Median age for introducing CFB: cereal 4.0 (range .50–6.5 mo), juice 4.50 (1–11 mo), fruit 5.0 (.50–8.2 mo), vegetables 5.5 (1–7.7 mo) and the food cluster (mixed foods, table foods, meat) 7.0 (3–12 mo)	<b>Intervention/Exposure:</b> Age of CFB introduction: Continuous CFB: supplementary foods included vegetables, cereal, juice, fruit, and food cluster (meat, mixed food, or table food) <b>Age:</b> 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 16, 20, and 24mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> 24h recall <b>Outcomes:</b> Weight; Length <b>Age:</b> 2-8mo; 12-24mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight: slope (kg/mo); standard protocol Length: slope (cm/mo); standard protocol Interview schedules were done using an incomplete block design, such that the number of times measures were taken for each infant 3-5 times from 2 to 10mo, and 2-4 times from 12 to 24mo <b>Confounders accounted for:</b> Sex: X Other: Final model 2-8mo weight slope: gender; Final model 2-8mo length slope: gender; Final model 2-8mo rate of change weight: gender, length slope; Final model 12-24mo weight gain: length, pre-existing weight	<b>Limitations:</b> Cannot determine whether groups differed at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine adequacy of statistical methods (previous versions of regression models not described, data not shown); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (education, SES, maternal age, race/ethnicity, birth size, or gestational age) Limited generalizability (small sample of white middle- to upper class subjects from TN); Results section reports that only age of introduction to vegetables and food cluster remained as significant predictors in rate of change in relative weight but that ages of CFB were not significant predictors in weight gain 12-24mo; Unclear if cereal $\leq 4$ or $>4$ mo was analyzed in relation to weight outcomes (reports in relation to illness). Final models reported significant predictors of weight change but post-hoc removal of length resulted in models becoming no longer significant Cannot rule out reverse causality

<p><b>de Beer, 2015</b> Prospective Cohort Study; The Netherlands</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 7863 (gave birth; N: 5551 with data; N:3321 attended 5-6y visit) Analytic N: 2227 Attrition: ~72% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> ~49% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> ~78% Dutch ~2.4% Surinamese ~2% Turkish ~4% Moroccan ~13% Other</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> ~23% &lt;1mo BF; ~27% BF 1-3mo; ~31% BF 3-mo; ~19% BF &gt;6mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;4, 4-6, &gt;6mo</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 1-11mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Monitored at check-ups</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight; Height; Body composition z-score, height z-score, fat-mass z-score; BMIZ</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 6-12mo; 5-6y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BMIZ calculated based on measured weight and height; z-score</li> <li>• Fat mass (FMZ), fat free mass (FFMZ) z-scores: calculated based on total body water from measured arm-leg bioelectrical impedance</li> </ul> <p>Weight, height: measured via scale, length board, and portable stadiometer; 'Conditional' sizes were created by standardized residuals derived from regressions of current and prior height and weight measures. Conditional height and weight represent a child's deviation from expected size and growth</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Race/ethnicity: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X (Birth weight) Gestational age: X Other: Current age; Childhood conditional height (12 months—5–6 years); Conditional height and weight during all periods in infancy; Maternal pre-pregnancy BMI; Maternal Height; Smoking; Alcohol; Hypertension; Pregnancy duration as gestational age</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups differed at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine if outcome assessors or investigators were blinded; Did not adjust for potential key confounder (SES); High-attrition rate not accounted for High loss to follow-up and group analyzed differed from original cohort in ways NR; Anthropometric measurements less precise than DEXA; Reverse causality of infant feeding and growth Results reported in abstract and discussion differ from results reported in tables; No cut-off/P-values were reported in tables related to analyses</p>
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<p><b>Durmus, 2012</b> Prospective Cohort Study; The Netherlands</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 1106 Analytic N: 779 Attrition: 29.6% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 49% female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 100% "Dutch ethnicity"</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 87.5% ever BF; ~4.5mo BF duration</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;4, 4-5, &gt;5mo CFB: Age that a fruit or vegetable snack was given</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 2, 6, and 12mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Caregiver questionnaire</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Body composition (Adiposity)</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 6mo, 24mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subcutaneous fat mass via skinfold thickness (biceps, triceps, suprailiacal, subscapular) measured by study personnel using calipers</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X Sex: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X (Birth weight) Gestational age: X Other: Maternal BMI, Smoking; Parity; Current height; Observer</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on all key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Did not assess the impact of high loss to follow-up (~27%); Did not adjust for key confounders (SES, maternal age, race/ethnicity) BF information only available in 78% of sample; CFB included only a fruit or vegetable snack and other products could have been introduced; Homogenous, highly-educated sample; Limited generalizability</p>
<p><b>Durmus, 2014</b> Prospective Cohort Study; The Netherlands</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 6054 Analytic N: 5063 Attrition: 16.4% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 50.2% Female</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;4, 4-4.9, ≥5mo CFB: Age that a fruit or vegetable snack was given</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 2, 6, and 12mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Caregiver questionnaire</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status; Body composition; WC (abdominal fat)</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 6y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight status: risk of overweight or obesity based on IOTF categories for BMI</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on all key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Did not adjust for key confounders (SES or feeding practices) Did not collect information on BM consumption or composition</p>

<p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 100% "Dutch ethnicity"</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 92.4% ever BF; 20.4% EBF to 4mo</p>	<p>Body composition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adiposity: total fat mass, android-gynoid ratio (DXA)</li> <li>• BMI: calculated from measured height/weight (stadiometer/mechanical scale)</li> </ul> <p>Abdominal/WC: abdominal fat via ultra-sound</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b></p> <p>Education: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Race/ethnicity: X Birth size: X Gestational age: X Other: Child age, Child height; Parity; Maternal BMI, Smoking; TV watching</p>	
<p><b>Ejlerskov, 2015</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Denmark</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N = 330 Analytic N = 233 Attrition = 29.4% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: N=260 to detect differences in growth</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 52.4% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> EBF: 126d, median (IQR=91-152); fully BF at 4mo: 67.8%; PBF at 9mo: 42.5%; median g/day formula at 9mo: 169 (IQR=0-410); median mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: earliest age receiving one of 19 food categories in mo;</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 9, 18, and 36mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Parental interview</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Body composition</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 36mo (<math>\pm 3</math>)</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fat free mass index, fat mass index: calculated from BIA and DXA measures for fat mass and fat free mass</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b></p> <p>Education: X Sex: X Feeding practices: X (Table 7) Birth size: X Other: WAZ 0-5mo; Maternal BMI</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine validity and reliability of dietary assessment; Did not assess the impact of high loss to follow-up (~29%); Did not adjust for key confounders such as SES, maternal age, race/ethnicity, or gestational age</p> <p>Insufficient power; prediction error of FFM and FM from BIA vs. DXA; age of introduction to CFB collected retrospectively; Fully BF for 6mo group drove results;</p>



introduction of solids: 4.0 (IQR=4.0-5.0)		
<p><b>Fairley, 2015</b> Prospective Cohort Study; United Kingdom</p> <p><b>Sample Size:</b> Baseline N: 1707 Analytic N: 987 Attrition: ~42% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b>Sex:</b> NR</p> <p><b>Race/Ethnicity:</b> 39% White British 48% Pakistani 13% Other</p> <p><b>Background Diet:</b> 27% never BF; 26.3% BF &lt;1mo; 18.5% BF 1-4mo; 28.2% BF &gt;4mo</p>	<p><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;17 or ≥ 17wk <b>Age:</b> 6 and 12mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Caregiver questionnaire</p> <p><b>Outcomes:</b> Weight status; body composition <b>Age:</b> 36mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight status: relative risk of overweight classified as BMIZ ≥ 85th %tile Body composition: BMI z-scores by WHO, 2006 standards from weight and height</p> <p><b>Confounders accounted for:</b> Education: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Race/ethnicity: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X Gestational age: X Other: Parity; Delivery Mode</p>	<p><b>Limitations:</b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment; Did not assess the impact of high loss to follow-up (~42%); Did not adjust analyses for SES Insufficient power to examine Obesity; Multiple testing not accounted for</p>
<p><b>Fawzi, 1997</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Israel</p> <p><b>Sample Size:</b> Baseline N: 1041 Analytic N: 351 Attrition: 66% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p>	<p><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b> Age of CFB introduction at 1, 2, or 3mo vs. EBF CFB: solids exclusively <b>Age:</b> Birth, 1-3mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Maternal interview</p> <p><b>Outcomes:</b> Weight <b>Age:</b> 2mo, 3mo</p>	<p><b>Limitations:</b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment; Did not adjust for potential confounders of SES, maternal age, race/ethnicity, or gestational age;</p>

<p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 49% Israel 51% immigrants from North African country</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 92.3% EBF at birth; 35.9% EBF at 1mo; 19.6% EBF at 2mo; 7.3% EBF at 3mo; 0.7% EBF at 6mo</p>	<p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight: gain; beam-balance scales to 0.1kg</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X Sex: X Feeding practices: X (in analyses) Birth size: X (Birth weight, weight at first prenatal visit) Other: Maternal height</p>	<p>Did not account for only 2 infants being EBF at 6mo so could not do comparisons as planned</p> <p>Cannot rule out reverse causality</p> <p>Limited generalizability due to immigrant sample</p> <p>Short-term follow-up</p>
<p><b>Ferris, 1980</b> Prospective Cohort Study; United States</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 92 Analytic N: 92 Attrition: 0% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 100% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 43.5% BF alone; 13% BF+solids; 11% FF alone; 21.7% FF+solids</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: at 2mo or &gt;2mo CFB: CFB+FF vs. FF alone</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 2mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Food record, 3d and diary</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Body composition; Weight; Length</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> birth-6mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition: weight/length<sup>2</sup> from measures Weight, and height with scale and infantometer</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> SES: X Sex: X (all female) Birth size: X Other: Income, maternal smoking, parent weight, and parity at baseline similar between groups</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Did not adjust analyses for potential key confounders (education, race/ethnicity, or gestational age) Sample was 100% female - male participants were to be reported elsewhere; Feeding practices part of analyses</p>
<p><b>Flores, 2013a</b> Prospective Cohort Study; U.S.</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 14000 Analytic N: 6800 Attrition: ~51%</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: Continuous, mo; &lt;3.5 vs. ≥3.5mo CFB: solid food a/o finger food</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Caregiver a/o teacher report</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Did not assess the impact of</p>

<p>Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 48.9% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 54% White; 25% Latino; 14% African- American; 2.7% Asian/PI; 0.4% AI/AN; 3.8% Multi</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> Average duration BF ~3.7mo Average introduction to formula ~3.5mo</p>	<p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> Kindergarten entry (~7.5y)</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight status: prevalence of overweight, based on age- and sex-specific BMI <math>\geq</math> 85th %tile; BMI by CDC standards, calculated from measured weight, and height (in triplicate with a digital scale and stadiometer)</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> None</p> <p>Recursive partitioning analyses accounted for: BMI at preschool age and at 2y, race/ethnicity, maternal gestational diabetes, birth weight</p>	<p>high loss to follow-up (~51%); Did not adjust analyses for potential key confounders (education, SES, sex, maternal age, or gestational age)</p> <p>RPA selects highest significance for binary split based on reducing variance not by P values; groups varied by outcome status in all risk factors assessed in bivariate analyses.</p>
<p><b>Flores, 2013b</b> Prospective Cohort Study; United States</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 14000 Analytic N: 6800 Attrition: ~51% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 48.9% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 54% White 25% Latino 14% African- American 2.7% Asian/PI 0.4% AI/AN 3.8% Multi</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> Average duration BF ~3.7mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: Continuous, mo CFB: solid food a/o finger food</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Caregiver a/o teacher report</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> Kindergarten entry (~7.5y)</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight status: prevalence of obesity classified as BMI <math>\geq</math> 99th %tile; age- and sex- specific BMI by CDC standards calculated from weight, and height, which were measured in triplicate with a digital scale and stadiometer</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Feeding practices: X (in model)</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Did not assess the impact of high loss to follow-up (~51%); Did not adjust analyses for potential confounders (education, SES, sex, maternal age, race/ethnicity, birth size or gestational age)</p> <p>Lack of information provided on intervention/exposure measurement; Feeding practices included in model</p>

Average introduction to formula ~3.5mo		
<b>Forsyth, 1993</b> Prospective Cohort Study ; Scotland <u><b>Sample Size:</b></u> Baseline N: 671 Analytic N: 584 at 8wk; 576 at 13wk; 544 at 26wk; 548 at 52wk; 392 at 104wk Attrition: ~13% at 8wk; ~14% at 13wk; ~19% at 26wk; ~18% at 52wk; ~42% at 104wk Sample Size Calculation: NR <u><b>Sex:</b></u> ~52% Female <u><b>Race/Ethnicity:</b></u> NR <u><b>Background Diet:</b></u> 14% EBF, 19.3% PBF, 66% MF	<u><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b></u> Age of CFB introduction: <8, 8-12, or >12wk <b>Age:</b> 8-12wk (~2-3mo) <u><b>Assessment Methods:</b></u> Maternal questionnaire <u><b>Outcomes:</b></u> Weight <b>Age:</b> 4, 8, 13, 26, 52, 104wk <u><b>Assessment Methods:</b></u> Weight: weighing machine with 20g divisions <u><b>Confounders accounted for:</b></u> SES: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X (Birth weight) Gestational age: All full-term Other: Smoking; Atopy risk	<u><b>Limitations:</b></u> Groups differed at baseline on key characteristics but analyses were not adjusted for differences; Cannot determine reliability/validity of outcome assessment; Did not adjust analyses for potential key confounders (education, race/ethnicity, or gestational age). Cannot rule out reverse causality (males earlier CFB and birth weights >4kg)
<b>Friel, 1985</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Canada <u><b>Sample Size:</b></u> Baseline N = 110 (50 pre-term, 60 full-term) Analytic N = 110 Attrition = N/A Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR <u><b>Sex:</b></u> 48% Female <u><b>Race/Ethnicity:</b></u> NR	<u><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b></u> Age of first CFB introduction (NR) <b>Age:</b> 6mo <u><b>Assessment Methods:</b></u> Diet record, 3d <u><b>Outcomes:</b></u> Weight <b>Age:</b> 12mo <u><b>Assessment Methods:</b></u> Weight: spring balance (pre-term); beam balance (full-term) to 50g <i>*Only weight at 12mo reported in relation to CFB</i> <u><b>Confounders accounted for:</b></u> SES: X	<u><b>Limitations:</b></u> Cannot determine if inclusion/exclusion criteria were similar across groups; Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Did not adjust analyses for potential key confounders (maternal age though groups were similar, education, race/ethnicity, or feeding practices) Only reported outcomes in relation to weight at 12mo and cross-sectional

<p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 12% (pre-term) and 47% (full-term) BF at 3mo At 6mo, 10% (pre-term) and 25% (full-term) given cow's milk Pre-term mixed-fed earlier than full-term infants (at 166d vs. 85d)</p>	<p>Sex: X Birth size: X Gestational age: X Other: Maternal age was similar between groups</p>	<p>analysis of age of introduction to CFB and length at 3mo</p>
<p><b>Gaffney, 2012</b> Prospective Cohort Study; U.S. <b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N = 4902 Analytic N = 691 Attrition = 85.9% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 49.3% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> BF intensity in late infancy: 52.1% low, 24.3% medium, 23.6% high</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;4, 4-6, and ≥6mo <b>Age:</b> 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, and 12mo <b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Maternal questionnaire <b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight <b>Age:</b> 12mo <b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight: WAZ via maternal-report of weight from recent doctor visit; calculated age and sex-specific z scores by CDC standards <b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X SES: X Maternal age: X Race/ethnicity: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X (Birth weight) Other: Mother's smoking status, weight gain in pregnancy, pregravid BMI</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine reliability/validity of outcome assessment and outcome assessors were not blinded due to both feeding and outcome data self-reported by mothers; Did not assess the impact of high loss to follow-up (~40%); Did not adjust analyses for potential confounders (sex, gestational age) Generalizability limited due to sample not being representative (Data not derived from a nationally representative sample, underrepresented minority groups; sample biased toward mothers with more education and higher SES)</p>
<p><b>Garden, 2012</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Australia <b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 616</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: ≤3 or &gt;3mo CFB: solid food ever <b>Age:</b> 3mo <b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Questionnaire</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar on baseline characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Did not account for high attrition rate/lost to follow-up (40%);</p>

<p>Analytic N: 370 (at 3mo, Timing) Analytic N: 298 (at 18mo, Type)  Attrition: 40% (3mo)  Attrition: 51.6% (18mo)  Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR  <u><b>Sex:</b></u>  49% female  <u><b>Race/Ethnicity:</b></u>  NR  <u><b>Background Diet:</b></u>  40% BF 0-3mo; 16.8% BF 3-6mo; 43.2% BF ≥6mo</p>	<p><u><b>Outcomes:</b></u>  Body composition  <b>Age:</b> birth-11.5y  <b>Assessment Methods:</b>  Body composition: BMI trajectory: calculated in kg/m<sup>2</sup> based on measured weight and height (weight, electronic bathroom scale to 1kg; length: portable stadiometer to 1cm); categorized using CDC curves for BMI %tile:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Normal: tracks at 50<sup>th</sup></li> <li>• Early and Persistent: at 75th at 2y crossing to 95th at 11.5y</li> <li>• Late Increase: tracks at 50th at 2y; crossed to 85th at 8y, and 90th at 11.5y</li> </ul> Measurements made by study nurses at 1, 3, 6, and 9mo; every 6mo from 9mo-5y, at 8y, at 11.5y; WC measured but NR  <u><b>Confounders accounted for:</b></u>  Education: X  Sex: X  Race/ethnicity: X  Feeding practices: X  Other: n3 vs. n6 intervention group; parent obesity; smoking</p>	<p>Did not adjust for potential key confounders (SES, maternal age, birth size, gestational age)</p>
<p><b>Gibbs, 2014</b>  Prospective Cohort Study; U.S.  <u><b>Sample Size:</b></u>  Baseline N = 10,500  Analytic N = 7,880  Attrition = 25%  Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR    <u><b>Sex:</b></u>  50% Female  <u><b>Race/Ethnicity:</b></u>  50% White; 16% Black, 18% Hispanic, 10% Asian, and 11% other</p>	<p><u><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b></u>  Age of CFB introduction: &lt;4mo or not &lt;4mo  <b>Age:</b> 9mo  <b>Assessment Methods:</b>  Maternal interview  <u><b>Outcomes:</b></u>  Weight status (Obesity)  <b>Age:</b> 24mo  <b>Assessment Methods:</b>  Weight status: risk of obesity, defined as 98th %tile for weight; also reported by WHO and CDC standards and by International Obesity Task Force (IOTF) cut-offs low/high BMI by sex according to measured weight  <u><b>Confounders accounted for:</b></u>  Education: X</p>	<p><u><b>Limitations:</b></u>  Cannot determine whether groups were similar on baseline characteristics; Did not account for high attrition rate/lost to follow-up (25%)</p>

<p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 28% BF for ≥3mo, 16% BF ≥6mo, 12% BF 3-5mo</p>	<p>SES: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Race/ethnicity: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X (Birth weight) Gestational age: X Other: Smoking; Depression, Model 1 or 3: both biological parents in home, sibling size, mother US born, mother's BMI, twin status, daycare</p>	
<p><b>Griffiths, 2009</b> Prospective Cohort Study; United Kingdom</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 18,296 Analytic N: 10,533 Attrition: 42% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 50.1% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 32.1% never BF; 67.9% ever BF; 60.1% BF &lt;4mo; 39.9% BF ≥ 4mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;4 vs. ≥4mo</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 9mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Parental interview</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight</p> <p><b>Age:</b> birth-3y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight: conditional weight gain from measured weight (Tanita scales) and z scores by British 1990 standards</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X SES: X Sex: X Feeding practices: X Other: Smoking; Parental BMI; Current child height 3y</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar on baseline characteristics; Cannot determine if outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment; Did not adjust for potential key confounders (maternal age, race/ethnicity, birth size, or gestational age) Retrospective recall; reverse causality Results were significant before adjustment for current child height z-score (not a key confounder); Race/ethnicity NR ~ appears sample was 100% white</p>
<p><b>Griffiths, 2010</b> Prospective Cohort Study; United Kingdom</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 18,296 Analytic N: 11,653</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;17.4 vs. ≥17.4wk</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 9mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Parental interview</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar on baseline characteristics; Cannot determine if outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment; Did not adjust</p>

<p>Attrition: ~36% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR <b><u>Sex:</u></b> 50% Female <b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 88% White 3% Mixed 2% Indian 3% Pakistani 0.8% Bangladeshi 2% Black 1% Other <b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 29% never BF; 42% BF &lt;4mo; 29% BF ≥ 4mo</p>	<p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight <b>Age:</b> 3-5y <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight: rapid weight gain, weight measured via Tanita scales <i>Measured but NR in relation to CFB: Height: stadiometer; z scores from measures by British 1990 standards; Overweight or Obesity by BMI based on IOTF cut-offs</i> <b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Race/ethnicity: X Gestational age: All full-term Other: Parental overweight; Smoking; # children in house</p>	<p>for potential key confounders (education, SES, sex, maternal age, race/ethnicity, feeding practices, birth size, or gestational age)</p>
<p><b>Grote, 2011</b> Prospective Cohort Study; U.K./European Union <b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 1,090 Analytic N: 687, at 24mo Attrition: 27% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: Powered to detect a 0.6 SD difference at 24mo in any anthropometric measurement in those introduced to CFB early (≤13wk) vs. at 18-21wk. <b><u>Sex:</u></b> 50% Female <b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 16% Germany 12% Belgium</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: ≤13, 14–17, 18–21, and ≥22wk <b>Age:</b> 3, 6, 9mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Food record, 3d, weighed; parental questionnaire <b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Body composition; Weight; Length <b>Age:</b> 3,6, 12, 24mo; 3-24mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Body composition: • WLZ, BMI (kg/cm<sup>3</sup>), BMIZ based on measures;by WHO standards Weight, length (via digital scale, recumbent length board, or stadiometer): used to calculate WAZ/LAZ and weight velocity (kg/30d or cm/30d) from baseline <b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X Sex: X Feeding practices: X (Formula group)</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine if outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment (lack of detail provided for single vs. multiple measures); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (SES, maternal age, race/ethnicity, or gestational age) Article notes types of CFB introduced may have had a stronger influence than the timing of CFB on growth Did not adjust for multiple comparisons</p>



<p>24% Italy 19% Poland 29% Spain</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 100% FF (mixed feeding allowed &lt;8wk) Median age of introduction to CFB 19wk; 7% introduced to CFB <math>\leq</math> 13wk; 97% CFB &lt;6mo</p>	<p>Other: Country, Birth Order, Age, Partnership Status, Smoking; Maternal BMI; Baseline infant anthropometric values</p>	
<p><b>Haschke, 2000</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Austria, Germany, Spain, France, Greece, UK, Hungary, Croatia, Italy, Ireland, Portugal, Sweden</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N = 2,245 Analytic N = 1,071 Attrition = 52% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 48.6% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 15.8% WHO group (EBF); 9.1% (Early CFB); 74.9% (controls)</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Infants were classified into groups based on their feeding patterns: WHO group: EBF for 4-6mo Early CFB: Fully BF through 4-6mo + receiving CFB &lt;4mo Control: Did not meet criteria for the WHO or early solid feeding groups; compared to WHO group Age of CFB introduction also examined continuously (mo) <b>Age:</b> 0-6mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Maternal interview</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight, WAZ, Length, LAZ, BMIZ <b>Age:</b> 1-12mo; 1-24mo; 1-36mo; 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 18, 24, 30, or 36mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition: measured weight/length used to calculate BMI and z-scores Weight: naked weight on electronic balances, to 1g Length/Height: (recumbent 1–36mo): Harpenden (UK) stadiometer, to 1mm; standing-height Harpenden stadiometer, to 1mm</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X Sex: X Other: Parent height</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment due to lack of details; Did not adjust for potential key confounders (SES, maternal age, race/ethnicity, feeding practices, birth size, or gestational age) Article notes study would have been strengthened by addition of other relevant covariates, such as maternal smoking, family income, etc.</p>

<p><b>Hawkins, 2009</b> Prospective Cohort Study; U.K. (England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland)</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 18,296 Analytic N: 13,188 Attrition: 27.9% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 50% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 87% White; 3% Mixed; 2% Indian 3% Pakistani; 0.9% Bangladeshi; 3% Black; 1% Other</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 30% never BF; 42% BF &lt;4mo; 28% BF ≥4mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;4 vs. ≥4mo</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 9mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Parental interview</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 0-3y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight status: risk of overweight and obesity, categorized based on BMI by IOTF cut-offs; BMI calculated from measure weight (Tanita scales) and height (stadiometer) z scores by British 1990 standards</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X SES: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Race/ethnicity: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X (Birth weight z-scores) Gestational age: X Other: Smoking; Parental BMI; Maternal hours; Country; Garden access; Food access; Parity; Income; Ward; Marital status</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar on baseline characteristics; Cannot determine if outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment</p>
<p><b>Heinig, 1993</b> Prospective Cohort Study; U.S.; DARLING study</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 105 Analytic N: 87 (N: 46 BF; N: 41 FF at 9mo) Attrition: ~17% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR (N: 56 per group Dewey, 1992)</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: BF: &lt;26 vs. ≥26wk; FF: continuously and &lt;20 vs. ≥20wk CFB: Date when first CFB offered was accepted</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 0-26wk (~0-6mo)</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Food record, 4d, weighed</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight; Length; Body composition</p> <p><b>Age:</b> birth-4mo, 4-6mo, 6-9mo, 9-12mo; 1-18mo</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine if outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment; Did adjust for potential key confounders (gestational age) Results were partially reported for FF infants by age of introduction to CFB in text (results/discussion) but data not shown Limited generalizability due to small geographic region</p>

<p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 52.8% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 87% White, non-Hispanic</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> All infants were BF or FF and were categorized into groups based on when the child was introduced to solids Mean age of CFB introduction was later in FF vs. BF infants (23wk vs. 20wk)</p>	<p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition: WLZ scores by NCHS reference were calculated from measured weight/height Weight: velocity(g/month) of mean gain calculated from measured weight; WAZ Length: velocity (cm/month) of mean gain calculated from measured height; LAZ</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Sex: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X (Based on stratified matching of birth weight) Gestational age: All full-term Other: Growth from 0-4mo; protein intake; energy intake; Stratified matching was used to account for education, SES, maternal age, race/ethnicity</p>	
<p><b><u>Huh, 2011</u></b> Prospective Cohort Study; U.S.</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 1579 Analytic N: 847 Attrition: 46% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 50.3% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 29.3% non-white</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 67% BF; 33% FF at 4mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;4, 4-5, and ≥6mo in FF and in BF infants CFB: 10 solids/food groups, including infant cereal, other starches (teething biscuits, crackers), fruit, vegetables, meat, chicken or turkey, peanut butter, other cow's milk dairy product</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 0-6mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Maternal questionnaire</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status, Body composition (Adiposity); Weight; Height;</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 3y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight status: BMI calculated from measured weight/height; BMI z; used for obesity=BMI ≥95th %tile Body composition: skinfold thickness via calipers; BMI and BMIZ from measures Weight: Seca scale to 0.1kg  Height: stadiometer to 0.1cm</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Groups differed on baseline characteristics and differences were not adjusted for in analyses; Cannot determine if outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine reliability/validity of outcome assessment; Did not adjust for potential key confounders (maternal age) Intake regulation may differ in FF vs. BF infants, leading to greater intake of CFB; Wider CI reflecting small number of infants in CFB&gt;6mo group (n=25/279); Limited generalizability</p>

	<p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b>  Education: X  SES: X  Sex: X  Race/ethnicity: X  Birth size: X (Birth weight, birth weight-for-gestational age z-score)  (Excluded, no effect)  Gestational age: (Excluded, no effect)  Other: Early infant-growth 0-4mo; Maternal and Paternal BMI</p>	
<p><b>Imai, 2014</b>  Prospective Cohort Study;  Iceland  <b><u>Sample Size:</u></b>  Baseline N: 250  Analytic N: 154  Attrition: 38.4%  Power Analysis and Sufficient  Sample Size: NR  <b><u>Sex:</u></b>  ~51% Female  <b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b>  NR  <b><u>Background Diet:</u></b>  40% EBF; 7.7% EFF at 5mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b>  Age of CFB introduction: at 5mo  CFB: EBF (N: 62), CFB+BF (N: 57)  <b>Age:</b> 5-8mo  <b>Assessment Methods:</b>  Caregiver questionnaire; 24h recall; Food record, weighed 3d  <b><u>Outcomes:</u></b>  Weight; Length; Body composition  <b>Age:</b> 6-12mo; 12-18mo, 6y  <b>Assessment Methods:</b>  Body composition: BMI from measured height and weight  Weight: scale to 0.1kg; reported as absolute and change in; used for BMI  Length: stadiometer to 0.5cm; reported as absolute and change in; used for BMI  <b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b>  Education: X  Sex: X  Feeding practices: X (in model)  Birth size: X (Birth weight)</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b>  Cannot determine if outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment; Did not adjust for potential confounders (SES, maternal age, race/ethnicity, or gestational age); Did not account for high attrition rate (38%)  Small sample size (insufficient power); Did not collect information on exact time of introduction of CFB</p>
<p><b>Johnson, 2014</b>  Prospective Cohort Study; U.K.  <b><u>Sample Size:</u></b>  Baseline N: 4860</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b>  Age of CFB introduction: &lt;4mo (n=1714), ~5mo (n=1667), ≥6mo (n=1364)  <b>Age:</b> 8.2mo</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b>  Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment (parent report); Outcome assessors not blind; Did not</p>

<p>Analytic N: 4251 Attrition: ~12.5% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 50.3% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 23% never BF, n=1097; 53% BF birth to 4mo, n=2507; 24% BF &gt; 4 mo, n= 1168; ~2% EBF ≥ 4mo, n=95</p>	<p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Caregiver questionnaire</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 6mo, 0-6mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight: Parent report of child health record weight: SDS according to reported weight; SITAR weight trajectory: Tempo was the age of peak weight velocity in wk (higher=delayed tempo); Weight velocity (kg/wk)</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X SES: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Feeding practices: X Gestational age: X Other: Birth order; parity; occupation; smoking; zygosity; child age at baseline</p>	<p>adjust for potential confounders (birth size, race/ethnicity)</p> <p>Groups unbalanced (29% in CFB &gt;6mo group)</p>
<p><b>Kalies, 2005</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Germany</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N = 3,036 Analytic N = 2,337 Attrition = 23% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 49% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> Feeding mode during time of observation: 24.4% EBF first 0-</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: 1-3mo, 4-6mo, &gt;6mo</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 2y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Caregiver questionnaire</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 24mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight, height: recorded at preventive medical check-ups; reported as risk of elevated weight gain at 24mo</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> SES: X Sex: X Feeding practices: X</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar on baseline characteristics; Cannot determine if outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment (height and weight non-duplicate at medical check-ups); Did not account for high attrition rate (23%); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (education; maternal age; race/ethnicity, birth size or gestational age) Parent self-reported feeding data; primary objective of study was not timing/type of CFB as such it appears</p>

1mo, 16.3% BF for 2-3mo, 20.8% BF for 4-5mo, 38.6% BF > or = 6mo.	Other: Smoking; maternal BMI; birth order; study center; All full-term	IV/Exposure was used as a confounding in models
<b>Khadivzadeh, 2004</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Iran <u><b>Sample Size:</b></u> Baseline N = 200 Analytic N = 193 Attrition = 3.5% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR <u><b>Sex:</b></u> 47% Female <u><b>Race/Ethnicity:</b></u> NR <u><b>Background Diet:</b></u> 100% BF at 4mo	<u><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b></u> Age of CFB introduction: CFB+BF at 4mo vs EBF 4-6mo <b>Age:</b> 4.5mo <u><b>Assessment Methods:</b></u> Maternal interview <u><b>Outcomes:</b></u> Weight; Length <b>Age:</b> 5, 6mo; 4-6mo <u><b>Assessment Methods:</b></u> Weight: Digital scale; weight and weight gain Length: Recumbent board; length and length gain <u><b>Confounders accounted for:</b></u> Sex: X Maternal age: X Race/ethnicity: X	<u><b>Limitations:</b></u> Cannot determine whether groups were similar on baseline characteristics; Cannot determine if outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment; Did not adjust for potential key confounders (education, SES, birth size, gestational age, feeding practices) Degree of antenatal care was significantly higher in exclusively BF vs BF + CFB group but not included as confounder in analysis.
<b>Kramer, 1985</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Canada <u><b>Sample Size:</b></u> Baseline N: 462 Analytic N: 347 Attrition: ~25% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR <u><b>Sex:</b></u> 46.1% Female <u><b>Race/Ethnicity:</b></u> NR <u><b>Background Diet:</b></u> At birth, 58.4% EBF, 72.6%	<u><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b></u> Age of CFB introduction: Continuous CFB: cereals and other solids <b>Age:</b> birth-1y <u><b>Assessment Methods:</b></u> Maternal interview <u><b>Outcomes:</b></u> Weight; Body composition <b>Age:</b> 24mo <u><b>Assessment Methods:</b></u> Body composition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BMI: calculated via weight/height<sup>2</sup></li> <li>• Skinfold thickness: sum of triceps, subscapular, and suprailiac measures via calipers by research staff</li> </ul>	<u><b>Limitations:</b></u> Cannot determine whether groups were similar on baseline characteristics; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment (insufficient detail); Did not account for high rate of attrition (>20%); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (race/ethnicity, birth size, gestational age)

Any BF; At 4mo, 18.8% EBF, 37.2% Any BF; At 6mo, 10.4% EBF, 22.5% Any BF (Kramer, 1985b, based on n: 382 at 6mo)	Weight: measured at home-visit by research staff <b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X SES: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Feeding practices: X (duration of BF, step-wise) Gestational age: All full-term	
<b>Kramer, 1985b</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Canada <b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 462 Analytic N: 382 Attrition: ~17% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR <b><u>Sex:</u></b> 46.1% Female <b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR <b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> At birth, 58.4% EBF, 72.6% Any BF; At 4mo, 18.8% EBF, 37.2% Any BF; At 6mo, 10.4% EBF, 22.5% Any BF	<b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: Continuous CFB: cereals and other solids <b>Age:</b> 0-4mo <b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Maternal interview <b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Body composition; Weight <b>Age:</b> 6mo, 12mo <b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BMI: calculated via weight/height<sup>2</sup></li> <li>• Skinfold thickness: sum of triceps, subscapular, and suprailiac measures via calipers by research staff</li> </ul> Weight: measured at home-visit by research staff <b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X SES: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X (birth weight) Gestational age: All full-term	<b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar on baseline characteristics; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment (insufficient detail); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (race/ethnicity, birth size, gestational age) Lack of detail on outcome measurements

<p><b>Kramer, 2004</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Belarus</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 17,601 Analytic N: 17,046 Attrition: 3% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> NR; 100% were BF at birth</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: intake (any vs. none) of CFB at the start of the respective growth interval CFB: cereals, other solids, and juices</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 0-12mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Maternal interview</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Body composition; Weight; Length; HC</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 1-3mo; 3-6mo; 6-9mo; 9-12mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Body composition: WLZ based on CDC/WHO, 2000 Weight: NR; used to calculate WAZ Length: NR; used to calculate LAZ HC: NR</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X Birth size: X (All with birth weight &gt;2.5kg) Gestational age: All full-term Other: Anthropometric outcome at current time (WAZ, LAZ, WLZ, HC), geographic region, urbanicity, hospital</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar on baseline characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment (unstandardized); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (SES, sex, maternal age, race/ethnicity though participants were from RCT)</p> <p>Cereals consumed may not be generalizable; Only 1.2% of infants were consuming cereals at 3mo; Cannot rule out reverse causality, residual confounding, and selection bias; Trial promoted breast-feeding; Outcome assessment was unstandardized (various methods used; not primary outcome of original RCT)</p>
<p><b>Kuperberg, 2006</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Canada</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 102 Analytic N: 71 Attrition: 30% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 49% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: Continuous; Dichotomous (y/n) &lt;4mo CFB: solids, and cow's milk</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 48mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Maternal questionnaire; 24hr recall</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 48mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight status: risk of overweight, based on BMI <math>\geq</math> 85th %tile from measured length/height and weight. Weight at 3 and 18mo measured via portable infant scale; at 33 and 48mo, electronic scale.</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar on baseline characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Did not account for high rate of attrition to 48mo; Did not adjust for potential key confounders (education, SES, sex, maternal age, race/ethnicity, feeding practices, birth size, or gestational age)</p> <p>Mother's health information not available at 3mo; Limited IV/Exposure</p>



<p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 75% initiated BF 57.1% CFB by 4mo</p>	<p>Length: at 3 and 18mo measured via pediatric length board; height at 33 and 48mo, measured via microtoise modified tape measure</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Other: NR</p>	<p>assessment to maternal self-report and one, 24hr recall; Lack of relevant data</p>
<p><b>Lande, 2005</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Norway</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 1934 (3000 mailed; 1934 returned at 12mo) Analytic N: 1441 Attrition: ~25% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 47% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> NR</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: <math>\leq 4</math>, 4-5, <math>&gt;5</math>mo <b>Age:</b> 6mo; 12mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Parental FFQ <b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Body composition <b>Age:</b> 12mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Body composition:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BMI: calculated based on height and weight measured by health-care personnel</li> </ul> <b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X SES: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X Gestational age: All full-term Other: Smoking; Birth order</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar on baseline characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment; Cannot determine if length of follow-up differed between groups; Did not adjust analyses for potential key confounders (race/ethnicity, and gestational age)</p> <p>Not all relevant data was shown/reported; Note: daily/weekly use of CFB at 6mo was collected but only compared against PI at birth; or in univariate analyses; and not against BMI at 12mo; univariate analyses showed significant effect of age of CFB intro</p>
<p><b>Lauver, 1981</b> Prospective Cohort Study; United States</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 202 Analytic N: 77 Attrition: 62% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: <math>\leq 5</math> or <math>&gt;5</math>mo CFB: Beikost/solids; Non-compliant were given CFB <math>\leq 5</math>mo; compliant were given CFB <math>&gt;5</math>mo <b>Age:</b> 5mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Caregiver interview</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar on baseline characteristics; Cannot determine adherence to protocols across groups; Unintended exposures not accounted for (differences between groups in BF and cow's milk); Cannot determine whether investigators were blinded;</p>

<p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 47% Black 48% White 5% Other</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 25% BF; 75% formula; 12% consumed CM by 6mo</p>	<p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight; Length</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 6mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight and length recorded at clinic visits</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Maternal age: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X</p>	<p>Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment; Did not adjust for potential key confounders (education, SES, sex, or gestational age); Adequacy of statistical methods was insufficient</p>
<p><b>Layte, 2014</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Ireland</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 16,136 Analytic N: 11,134 Attrition: 31% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 49% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 86.3% Irish; 1.8% UK; 6.6% EU 2.4% African 2.8% Other</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 57.1% never BF; 4.3% BF&lt;3mo; 5.6% BF&lt;6mo; 8.8% BF 6+mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;4mo, &lt;5mo, &lt;6mo, ≥6mo</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 9mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Maternal interview</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status; Weight</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 0-9mo, 3y</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight status: risk of obesity based on BMI , calculated from measured height/weight by IOTF thresholds Weight: rapid gain calculated by measured weight on Seca scale to 0.5kg and length/height measured by height stick and indexed by IOTF</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> SES: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Feeding practices: X (BF in model) Birth size: X (Birth weight) Gestational age: X Other: Multiples; Birth order; Weight gain in pregnancy</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar on baseline characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment; Did not adjust analyses for potential key confounders (education, race/ethnicity, and feeding practices though part of modeling)</p>

<p><b>Leary, 2015</b> Prospective Cohort Study; United Kingdom</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 5,112 Analytic N: 4,750 Attrition: 7% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 52.3% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 36.4% EBF; 49.5% PBF; 14.1% no BF</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: <math>\leq 2</math>, 3, <math>\geq 4</math>mo</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 6mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Maternal questionnaire</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Body composition</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 15y</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Body composition: FM, lean mass via DXA; <i>BMI: not reported in relation to CFB</i></p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X SES: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X Gestational age: X Other: Current age; Maternal height; Parity</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar on baseline characteristics; Did not adjust for potential key confounders (race/ethnicity)</p>
<p><b>Makela, 2014</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Finland</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 1797 Analytic N: 848 Attrition: 52% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 48% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: Continuous, mo; Categorical <math>&lt;4</math>, 4-6, <math>&gt;6</math>mo CFB: vegetables, fruits, grains, meat, fish and dairy categories not defined</p> <p><b>Age:</b> birth-12mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Food diaries, collected in real-time</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status; Weight</p> <p><b>Age:</b> birth-24mo; at 24mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight status: risk of overweight or obesity based on Finnish age- and sex-specific growth references</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine the validity/reliability of outcome assessment (i.e., single vs multiple growth measures); Cannot determine how timing of introduction of individual food groups was analyzed; did not report outcomes for length or BMI; Did not account for high loss to follow-up (~52%); Did not adjust for potential</p>

<p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> EBF duration: 2.6mo, BF duration: 8.6mo</p>	<p>Weight: Measured by study personnel, to nearest 0.1kg</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Sex: X Feeding practices: X (BF, EBF duration) Birth size: X Gestational age: X Other: Gestational weight gain, maternal pre-pregnancy BMI</p>	<p>key confounders (education, SES, maternal age, race/ethnicity)</p>
<p><b>Moss, 2014</b> Prospective cohort study; U.S.</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N = 9550 Analytic N = 7200 at 2y, 6950 at 4y Attrition = 25% at 2y, 27% at 4y Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> Ever BF: 70% Age CFB introduced: 24% &lt;4mo, 50% 4-5mo, 26% &gt;6mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;4, 4-5, ≥6mo</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 9mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Maternal interview</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 2y, 4y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight status: BMI percentile calculated using measured height/weight; classified as healthy weight (&lt;85<sup>th</sup>), overweight (85-94<sup>th</sup>), or obese (≥95<sup>th</sup>)</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X SES: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Race/ethnicity: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X (Birth weight)</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Did not account for high loss to follow-up (&gt;20%); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (gestational age)</p>
<p><b>Neutzling, 2009</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Brazil</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 1460 Analytic N: 1204 Attrition = 18%</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;4, &gt;4mo</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 6, 12mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Maternal interview</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Did not adjust for potential key confounders (maternal age, gestational age)</p>

<p>Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: Yes, N=1,204 (to detect statistically significant relative risks of 0.7)</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 50% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 71% White, 29% Black or mixed skin color</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> BF duration: 18% &gt;12mo; EBF: 15% &gt;4mo; Ever BF: 96% Age of CFB introduction: 49% &lt;4mo</p>	<p><b>Age:</b> 11y</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight status: risk of overweight (&gt;85th percentile for BMI), and obesity (&gt;85th percentile for BMI, &gt;90th percentile for skinfolds); BMI percentile calculated using measured weight, height; triceps/subscapular skinfolds measured with calipers</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X SES: X Sex: X Race/ethnicity: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X Other: Smoking, maternal pregestational BMI</p>	
<p><b>Pan, 2016</b> Prospective Cohort Study; U.S</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 1542 Analytic N: 1189 Attrition: 22.9% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 50% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 88% White non-Hispanic, 3.4% Black non-Hispanic, 4.8% Hispanic, 3.9% Other non-Hispanic</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> BF duration: 48.6% &lt;6 mo ; 51.4% ≥6mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction (&lt;4mo, Y/N); Age of SSB (juice drinks, soft drinks, soda, sweet tea, Kool-Aid) introduction: never, &lt;6mo, ≥ 6mo</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 10-12mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Caregiver questionnaire</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 6y</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Obesity: based on BMI-for-age ≥95th %tile, calculated from maternal-report of weight and height taken with scale and tape</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X SES: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Race/ethnicity: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine reliability/validity of outcome assessment and outcome assessors were not blinded due to both feeding and outcome data self-reported by mothers; Did not assess the impact of high loss to follow-up (~22.9%); Did not adjust analyses for potential confounders (gestational age)</p> <p>Limited generalizability due to sample not being representative (Data not derived from a nationally representative sample, underrepresented minority groups; sample biased toward mothers with more education and higher SES)</p>

	Gestational age: Other: age at CFB introduction; pregnancy weight status	
<b>Piwoz, 1996</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Peru <u><b>Sample Size:</b></u> Baseline N: 156 Analytic N: 140 Attrition: 11% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR <u><b>Sex:</b></u> NR <u><b>Race/Ethnicity:</b></u> NR <u><b>Background Diet:</b></u> EBF to 4mo: 21%, BF/FF at 4mo: 13% Age of introduction of CFB: 61% by 4mo	<u><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b></u> Age of CFB introduction: <4 (BF/FF+CFB), >4mo (BF/FF) <b>Age:</b> 4mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Caregiver questionnaire <u><b>Outcomes:</b></u> Weight <b>Age:</b> birth-3mo; >3mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight: Measured by study personnel in duplicate, to nearest 100g <u><b>Confounders accounted for:</b></u> Birth size: X (All with birth weight >2.5kg)	<u><b>Limitations:</b></u> Groups differed at baseline on key characteristics that were not adjusted for in analyses (birthweight, age of formula and CFB introduction, calorie intake, diarrhea and fever prevalence); Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Did not adjust for key confounders (sex, gestational age, race/ethnicity); Data and statistical comparisons reported in figures is not described (mean values, P-values, etc.) Limited generalizability of population due to time of data collection; Cannot rule out reverse causality (BF/FF practices during age of outcome)
<b>Quandt, 1984</b> Prospective Cohort Study; U.S. <u><b>Sample Size:</b></u> Baseline N: 91 Analytic N: 45 Attrition: 50% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR <u><b>Sex:</b></u> 47% Female <u><b>Race/Ethnicity:</b></u> 100% White <u><b>Background Diet:</b></u> EBF at baseline: 100%	<u><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b></u> Age of CFB introduction: <4, >4mo <b>Age:</b> 2wk to 6mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Food diaries, collected in real-time <u><b>Outcomes:</b></u> Body composition; Weight; Length <b>Age:</b> 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Body composition: WLZ calculated from measures Weight and Length (recumbent): Measured by study personnel using standard anthropometric techniques <u><b>Confounders accounted for:</b></u> None	<u><b>Limitations:</b></u> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine the validity/reliability of outcome assessment (i.e., single vs multiple growth measures); Did not account for high loss to follow-up (50%); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (education, SES, sex, maternal age, race/ethnicity, feeding practices, birth size, gestational age)

Age of CFB introduction: ~120d (36-178d)		Small sample size; Cannot rule out reverse-causality (timing of CFB during outcome assessment)
<b>Reilly, 2005</b> Prospective Cohort Study; United Kingdom <b>Sample Size:</b> Baseline N: 13971 Analytic N: 5493 Attrition: 61% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR <b>Sex:</b> 49% Female <b>Race/Ethnicity:</b> 86% White <b>Background Diet:</b> EBF at 2mo: 28%; Never BF: 15%	<b>Intervention/Exposure:</b> Age of CFB introduction: <1, 1-2, 2-3, 3-4, 4-6, >6mo <b>Age:</b> 6mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Parent questionnaire <b>Outcomes:</b> Weight status <b>Age:</b> 7y <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight status: risk of obesity (BMI ≥95th %tile); BMI calculated using measured weight, height <b>Confounders accounted for:</b> Education: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Race/ethnicity: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X Gestational age: X Other: Energy intake at 3y, parity, maternal smoking, season of birth, # of fetuses, parental obesity, siblings, time spent watching tv and in the	<b>Limitations:</b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine the validity/reliability of outcome assessment (i.e., single vs multiple growth measures); Did not account for high loss to follow-up (61%); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (SES)
<b>Robinson, 2009</b> Prospective Cohort Study; U.K. <b>Sample Size:</b> Baseline N: 1195 Analytic N: 536 Attrition: 55% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR	<b>Intervention/Exposure:</b> Age of CFB introduction: Not defined <b>Age:</b> 6mo, 12mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> FFQ; maternal interview <b>Outcomes:</b> Body composition <b>Age:</b> 4y	<b>Limitations:</b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine the validity/reliability of some outcome measures (i.e., single vs multiple height, weight measures); Did not

<p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 47% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> Never BF: 12.5%; BF for 6mo: 20%</p> <p>Age of introduction to CFB: 76% by 4mo</p>	<p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BMI: Calculated using measured height, weight</li> <li>• Lean mass: Whole-body DXA measurement; Lean mass index: lean mass divided by height<sup>2</sup>;</li> <li>• Fat mass (FM): Whole-body DXA measurement; Fat mass index (FMI): FM divided by height<sup>2</sup></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> SES: X Maternal age: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X Other: Maternal BMI, maternal height, smoking in late pregnancy</p>	<p>define age of introduction of CFB variable; Did not account for high loss to follow-up (55%); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (education, sex, race/ethnicity, gestational age)</p>
<p><b>Rossiter, 2013</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Canada</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 546 Analytic N: 377 Attrition: 31% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 43% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> BF initiated: 75%; BF at 3mo: 44% Age of CFB introduction: 50% &lt;4mo, 10% &lt;2mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;4, &gt;4mo</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 3, 18, 33, and 48mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Maternal interview</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 4y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight status: prevalence of overweight/obesity vs. normal/under weight with overweight classified as BMI≥85th percentile, and obesity as BMI≥95th percentile; BMI calculated using measured (duplicate) weight, height</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X SES: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X Gestational age:</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Did not account for high loss to follow-up (31%); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (race/ethnicity, gestational age)</p>



	Other: Maternal birthplace, smoking, siblings, marital status, number of people in home, parental classes, maternal weight	
<p><b>Salmenpera, 1985</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Finland</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 198 Analytic N: at 6-9mo, N: 113 (FF+CFB N: 32; EBF N:36; BF+CFB N:45) Analytic N: at 9-12mo, N: 84 (FF+CFB N: 32; EBF N:7; BF+CFB N:45) Attrition: at 6-9mo, 42%; at 9-12mo, 58% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 53% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> BF at 6mo: 59% Age of CFB introduction: 42% between 4-6mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: BF+CFB (6-9mo, or 9-12mo, N:45) vs. EBF (6-9mo, N:36 or 9-12mo, N: 7) <i>*Article "comparison group" of FF+CFB &lt;3.5mo of age is not included here</i></p> <p><b>Age:</b> NR</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight; Length</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 6-12mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight: velocity from weight measured by study personnel to nearest 5g Length: velocity from recumbent length measured with length board by study personnel to nearest 1mm</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Gestational age: X</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine the validity/reliability of outcome assessment (i.e., single vs multiple growth measures); limited information provided regarding infant feeding measures; Did not account for high loss to follow-up (&gt;40%); Did not adjust for key confounders (education, SES, sex, maternal age, race/ethnicity, feeding practices, birth size) Data and statistical comparisons reported in tables/figures for other relevant outcomes and sub-groups were not described (e.g., head circumference and skinfold comparisons not shown for BF+CFB vs. EBF) Article notes potential for reverse causality (faster growing infants had earlier timing of CFB/greater infant demand)</p>
<p><b>Santorelli, 2014</b> Prospective Cohort Study; United Kingdom</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 1735 Analytic N: 1327 Attrition: 24%</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;17, &gt;17wk CFB: sweetened foods a/o drinks</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 6, 12mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Maternal questionnaire</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine the validity/reliability of outcome measures (i.e., single vs multiple growth</p>

<p>Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 38% White, 49% Pakistani, 7% South Asian, 6% Other</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> BF after CFB introduction: 32% Age of CFB introduction: 10% &lt;17wk</p>	<p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Body composition</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 3y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition: BMIZ: calculated using measured height, weight and converted into age- and sex-adjusted z-scores based on WHO, 2006 growth standards</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Race/ethnicity: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X Gestational age: X Other: Marital status, smoking during pregnancy, maternal BMI, delivery mode</p>	<p>measures); Did not account for high loss to follow-up (24%); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (SES)</p>
<p><b>Schack-Nielsen, 2010</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Denmark</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 8129 Analytic N: 5068 Attrition: 39% Power Analysis/Sample Size Calculation: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> BF duration: 3.5mo; BF &lt;2wk: 18% Age of CFB introduction: 3.8mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of introduction to CFB: Continuous, mo; Categorical, ≥4 vs &lt;4mo CFB: spoon-feeding, vegetables, eggs, meat, firm food</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 1y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Maternal questionnaire</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status; Body composition; WC</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 1-42y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight status: risk of overweight based on BMI ≥25 using self-reported height and weight at 42y Body composition: BMI calculated using height, weight measured by study personnel at 1, 3, and 6y; school records at 7-14y; self-reported at 2-34y, 42y WC: Self-reported at 42y via mailed questionnaire and tape measure</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Outcome assessors were not blinded at 20-34y, 42y; Did not use valid/reliable measures to assess outcomes (weight was self-reported at 20-34y and 42y); Did not account for high loss to follow-up (39%); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (race/ethnicity); Not all variables were analyzed in relation to all outcomes, and data from figures not adequately described Limited generalizability (CFB practices in 1959-1960)</p>

	<p>Education: X  SES: X  Sex: X  Maternal age: X  Race/ethnicity:  Feeding practices: X  Birth size: X (Birth weight)  Gestational age: X  Other: Prepregnancy BMI, gestational weight gain, smoking during pregnancy, marital status, weight at 1y</p>	
<p><b>Seach, 2010</b>  Prospective Cohort Study;  Australia  <b>Sample Size:</b>  Baseline N: 620  Analytic N: 307  Attrition: 50%  Power Analysis and Sufficient  Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b>Sex:</b>  NR</p> <p><b>Race/Ethnicity:</b>  99% White</p> <p><b>Background Diet:</b>  Ever BF: 94%; EBF duration:  15wk; BF duration: 48wk  Age of CFB introduction: 20wk  (6% &gt;6mo)</p>	<p><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b>  Age of CFB introduction: Continuous, wk  <b>Age:</b> 0-64wk (weekly), 78wk, 2y  <b>Assessment Methods:</b>  Maternal interview  <b>Outcomes:</b>  Weight status  <b>Age:</b> 10y  <b>Assessment Methods:</b>  Weight status: BMI calculated using measured height, weight  (methods NR); classified into age- and sex-standardized BMI  categories (normal weight, overweight and obese); overweight and  obese were combined to create a binary outcome variable of an  ‘above healthy’ BMI vs. ‘healthy’  <b>Confounders accounted for:</b>  Education: X  SES: X  Race/ethnicity: X  Feeding practices: X  Birth size: X  Other: Parental smoking, childcare</p>	<p><b>Limitations:</b>  Cannot determine whether groups  were similar at baseline on key  characteristics; Cannot determine  whether outcome assessors were  blinded; Cannot determine the  validity/reliability of outcome measures  (i.e., single vs multiple growth  measures); Did not account for high  loss to follow-up (50%); Did not adjust  for potential key confounders (sex,  maternal age, gestational age)</p>
<p><b>van Rossem, 2013</b>  Prospective Cohort Study; The  Netherlands</p>	<p><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b>  Age of CFB introduction: 0-3, 3-6, &gt;6mo  <b>Age:</b> 12mo</p>	<p><b>Limitations:</b>  Birth weight differed between timing of  CFB groups, and was not adjusted for  in analyses (all subjects were normal</p>

<p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 7295 Analytic N: 3184 Attrition: 56% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 68% Dutch, 12% Other Western, 21% Non-Western</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> BF at 2mo: 69%, BF at 6mo: 33% Age of CFB introduction: 5% 0-3mo, 57% 3-6mo, 38% &gt;6mo</p>	<p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Maternal questionnaire</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Body composition</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 12-45mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WLZ/WHZ: change in weight-for-length/height (kg/cm gain in length) z score according to Dutch reference; weight (SECA scale), length/height (supine/stadiometer) were measured by study personnel</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X Race/ethnicity: X Feeding practices: X Gestational age: X (All &gt;37wk) Other: Smoking during pregnancy, maternal BMI, history of allergy or hospital admission in the first year of life</p>	<p>birth weight); Cannot determine if outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine the validity/reliability of outcome measures (i.e., single vs multiple measures); Did not adjust for several potential key confounders (SES, sex, maternal age, birth size); Adequacy of statistical methods insufficient (statistical comparisons between different timing of CFB introduction were not clearly made in tables, figures, or text)</p> <p>Infants introduced to CFB earlier had higher WLZ before CFB introduction; confidence intervals in tables indicate significance but comparisons were not clear</p>
<p><b>Victora, 1998</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Brazil</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 655 Analytic N: 627 Attrition: 4% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 51% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> BF: 100%</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;3, &gt;3mo</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 1, 3, 6mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> 24-hr recall</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Body composition; Weight; Length</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 3-6mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition: ponderal index derived from weight divided by length<sup>3</sup> Weight: Measured by study personnel, to nearest 100g Length: Measured by study personnel, recumbent</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine the validity/reliability of outcome assessment (i.e., single vs multiple measures); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (sex, maternal age, race/ethnicity, feeding practices, birth size, gestational age) Limited generalizability due to study setting (lower HDI at the time of data collection)</p>

	<p>SES: X Other: Housing quality, crowding index, number of children &lt;5y in house</p>	
<p><b>Villalpando, 2000</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Mexico <b>Sample Size:</b> Baseline N: 216 Analytic N: 170 Attrition: 21% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR <b>Sex:</b> NR <b>Race/Ethnicity:</b> NR <b>Background Diet:</b> BF at birth: 90%; BF at 6mo: 25% Age of CFB introduction: 86% by 4mo</p>	<p><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b> Age of CFB introduction: 15d intervals from 0-6mo, Continuous <b>Age:</b> 0-6mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Maternal interview, every 15d <b>Outcomes:</b> Weight; Length <b>Age:</b> 0-6mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight: Measured by study personnel with an electronic balance Length: Measured by study personnel using a length board <b>Confounders accounted for:</b> Feeding practices: X Birth size: X (All with birth weight 2500-4000g; Birth BMI) Gestational age: X (All full term) Other: Age, episodes of infection</p>	<p><b>Limitations:</b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine the validity/reliability of outcome assessment (i.e., insufficient detail regarding single vs multiple measures); Did not account for high loss to follow-up (21%); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (education, SES, sex, maternal age, race/ethnicity) Limited generalizability (sample from slum population); Cannot rule out reverse causality (timing of CFB during outcome assessment)</p>
<p><b>Warrington, 1988</b> Prospective Cohort Study; U.K. <b>Sample Size:</b> Baseline N: 109 Analytic N: 78 Attrition: 28% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR <b>Sex:</b> NR <b>Race/Ethnicity:</b> 50% White, 50% Asian</p>	<p><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b> Age of CFB introduction: Continuous, wk <b>Age:</b> 3, 6, 9 12, and 24mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Food records, 3d, weighed <b>Outcomes:</b> Weight <b>Age:</b> 1y, 2y <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight: Measured by study personnel <b>Confounders accounted for:</b> Race/ethnicity: X</p>	<p><b>Limitations:</b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine if adherence was similar across study groups; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine the validity/reliability of outcome assessment (methods not described); Did not account for high loss to follow-up (28%); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (Education, SES, sex, maternal age, feeding practices, birth size,</p>

<p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> EBF for 12wk+: 5%; FF from birth: 40% Age of CFB introduction: 46% &lt;12wk</p>		<p>gestational age); Adequacy of statistical methods insufficient (did not provide data table or statistics to accompany results reported via figure and text)</p>
<p><b>Wells, 1998</b> Prospective Cohort Study; U.K.</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 50 Analytic N: 20 Attrition: 60% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> BF and FF</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;12, &gt;12wk</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 12wk</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Food records, 1d, weighed</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Body composition (Adiposity); Weight; Height</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 2-3.5y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FM, FFM: Calculated using total body water and weight</li> <li>• Skinfold thickness (triceps, subscapular): Measured by study personnel</li> </ul> <p>Weight: Measured by study personnel Height: Measured by study personnel</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Feeding practices: X (energy intake, milk volume intake) Gestational age: X (all full term) Other: Child age, infant soothability score</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine the validity/reliability of outcome assessment (i.e., single vs multiple measures); Length of follow-up ranged from 2-3.5y; Did not account for high loss to follow-up (60%); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (education, SES, sex, maternal age, birth size); Did not provide data table to accompany all results reported in text</p>
<p><b>Wen, 2014b</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Australia</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 330 Analytic N: 242 Attrition: 27%</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;2, 3-5, &gt;6mo</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 6mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Maternal interview</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status; Body composition</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 2y</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Did not account for high loss to follow-up (27%); Did not adjust for</p>

<p>Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 54% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> Duration of BF: 5.82mo; Ever BF: 97% Age of CFB introduction: 8% &lt;2mo, 28% 3-5mo, 64% &gt;6mo</p>	<p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight status: Overweight classified as BMI&gt;25kg/m2, obese as BMI&gt;30kg/m2 Body composition: BMI calculated using measured (duplicate) weight, length</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> SES: X (Household income; employment status) Sex: X Education: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X (birth weight) Other: Marital status, tv time, mothers BMI and weight status, mothers county of birth; age of starting tummy time; using bottle at 1y; outdoor activity time; food for reward; dietary intake at 2y; maternal age</p>	<p>potential key confounders (race/ethnicity, gestational age) Limited generalizability (sample was "very disadvantaged")</p>
<p><b><u>WHO, 2002</u></b> Prospective Cohort Study; China, India, Guatemala, Nigeria, Chile, Sweden, Australia</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: NR Analytic N: 1252 Attrition: CD Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 45% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> BF: 100%</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: 1-8, 9-16, 25-32wk vs 17-24wk</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 0-32wk</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Maternal interview</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight; Length</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 8wk (midpoint of 1-16wk), 24wk (midpoint of 17-32wk)</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight: Measured by study personnel Length: Measured by study personnel</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Feeding practices: X (BF duration, food given to infant before BF, access of infant to breast, BF per day) Birth size: X (all with birth weight &gt;2500g) Gestational age: X</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine loss to follow-up, baseline sample size not reported; Did not adjust for potential key confounders (SES, race/ethnicity); Statistical analyses were difficult to interpret (i.e., in several cases, the exposure of CFB introduction occurred after the time point at which the outcome was measured) Results showed small differences in growth based on timing of CFB introduction that were statistically significant but probably not biologically important</p>

	Other: maternal surgery, number of previous births, maternal health	Limited generalizability (exclusively enrolled high SES)
<b>Wolman, 1984</b> Prospective Cohort Study; United States <b>Sample Size:</b> Baseline N: 262 Analytic N: 164 Attrition: 37% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR <b>Sex:</b> NR <b>Race/Ethnicity:</b> NR <b>Background Diet:</b> BF 1-12 wk: 16%; BF >13wk: 5% Age of introduction to CFB: 89% <3mo; 65% before 1mo	<b>Intervention/Exposure:</b> Age of CFB introduction: <12, >13wk <b>Age:</b> 0-24mo <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Parent questionnaire <b>Outcomes:</b> Body composition (BMI); Weight; Height <b>Age:</b> 4-6y <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Body composition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BMI calculated using height, weight taken from medical records</li> </ul> Weight: Taken from medical records Height: Taken from medical records <b>Confounders accounted for:</b> None	<b>Limitations:</b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Did not use valid/reliable measures to assess outcomes (growth measures taken from medical records); Cannot determine whether length of follow-up was similar across groups (follow-up age ranged from 4-6y); Did not account for high loss to follow-up (37%); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (SES, sex, education, maternal age, race/ethnicity, feeding practices, birth size, gestational age)
<b>Woo, 2013</b> Prospective Cohort Study; United States, Mexico, China <b>Sample Size:</b> Baseline N: 365 Analytic N: 285 Attrition: 22% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR <b>Sex:</b> NR <b>Race/Ethnicity:</b> 33% US, 33% Mexican, 33% Chinese	<b>Intervention/Exposure:</b> Age of CFB introduction: Continuous, mo <b>Age:</b> 0-1y <b>Assessment Methods:</b> 24-hr food frequency recall of 21 food items, weekly <b>Outcomes:</b> Body composition (BMI); Weight; Length <b>Age:</b> 1y <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Body composition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BMI calculated using measured height, weight</li> </ul> Weight: Measured by study personnel in duplicate Length: Measured by study personnel in duplicate, supine	<b>Limitations:</b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Did not account for high loss to follow-up (22%); Did not adjust for key confounders (SES, race/ethnicity)



<p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> EBF duration: 5wk in China, 14wk in US, 7wk in Mexico; BF duration: 37wk in China, 50wk in US, 52wk in Mexico Age of CFB introduction: 18wk in China, 23wk in US, 25wk in Mexican</p>	<p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X Gestational age: X (All &gt;37wk) Other: Prepregnancy BMI, gestational weight gain, gestational diabetes, type of delivery, cohort site</p>	
<p><b>Worobey, 2009</b> Prospective Cohort Study; United States <b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 242 Analytic N: 96 Attrition: 60% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR <b><u>Sex:</u></b> 51% Female <b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 24% Black, 76% Hispanic <b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> FF: 100% Age of CFB introduction: 4.23mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: Continuous, mo <b>Age:</b> 3, 6, 12mo <b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Food record <b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight <b>Age:</b> 3-6mo <b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight: Measured by study personnel trained in reliable measurement <b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Race/ethnicity: X Feeding practices: X (# feeds per day) Birth size: X Other: Maternal BMI, weight and length gain from 0-3mo, maternal sensitivity to infant signals, country of origin, prepregnancy BMI, gestational weight gain</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Did not account for high loss to follow-up (60%); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (SES, gestational age)</p>
<p><b>Worobey, 2014</b> Prospective Cohort Study; United States</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: Continuous, mo <b>Age:</b> 3, 6, 12mo</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine</p>

<p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 242 Analytic N: 154 Attrition: 36% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> 24% Black, 54% Mexican, 25% other Latino</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> FF: 100%</p>	<p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Food record</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 3-6mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight: Measured by study personnel trained in reliable measurement</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Feeding practices: X (# of feeds at 3mo) Birth size: X Other: Maternal BMI, # of cries at 3mo, # of cry-feeds at 3mo, infant weight at 3mo, total sleep at 3mo</p>	<p>whether outcome assessors were blinded; Did not account for high loss to follow-up (36%); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (education, SES, sex, maternal age, race/ethnicity, gestational age)</p>
<p><b><u>Wilson, 1998</u></b> Prospective Cohort Study; U.K.</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 674 Analytic N: 545 Attrition: 19% Sample Size Calculation: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 54% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> EBF at 15wk: 26%, partial BF at 15wk: 37%, formula fed at 15wk: 37%</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;15, &gt;15wk</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 0-2y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Parent questionnaire</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight, height, BMI, % body fat</p> <p><b><u>Age:</u></b> 7y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BMI calculated using measured height, weight</li> <li>• % body fat calculated based on bioelectrical impedance (and skinfold thickness NR)</li> </ul> <p>Weight: Measured by study personnel Height: Measured by study personnel</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> SES: X Sex: X Feeding practices: x Birth size: X (Birth weight) Other: Height, maternal height, weight at first solids</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine the validity/reliability of outcome assessment (i.e., single vs multiple measures); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (education, race/ethnicity, gestational age) Article states skinfold thickness measures were taken but data NR</p>

<p><b>Yeung, 1981</b> Prospective Cohort Study; Canada</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 403 Analytic N: 316 Attrition: 22% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> BF: 56% at 1mo, 39% at 3mo, 26% at 5mo, 21% at 6mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;2, &gt;2mo</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 15, 18mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Food record, 4d</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Body composition</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 6mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Body composition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skinfold thickness sum of triceps and subscapular skinfolds measured by study personnel</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Gestational age: X (All full term)</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determine the validity/reliability of outcome assessment (i.e., single vs multiple measures); Did not account for high loss to follow-up (22%); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (education, SES, sex, maternal age, race/ethnicity, feeding practices, birth size)</p>
<p><b>Zheng, 2015</b> Prospective Cohort Study; China</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 90066 Analytic N: 40510 Attrition: 55% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 48% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> Ever BF: 93%</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: ≤3, 4-6, &gt;6mo CFB: fish liver oil, rice cereal/porridge, egg yolk, fish paste, liver paste, tofu, animal blood, bread/steamed bun/fine dried noodle, ground meat/soy product, and pureed noodle/cookies</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 1, 3, 6mo</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Maternal interview</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status; Body composition</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 4-5y</p> <p><b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight status: Obesity defined as BMI z-score&gt;2SD, overweight defined as between 1-2SD Body composition: BMI calculated using self-reported weight, height</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X SES: X Sex: X</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Outcome assessors were not blinded; Did not use valid/reliable measures to assess outcomes (weight was self-reported; lack of detail provided); Did not account for high loss to follow-up (55%); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (sex, maternal age, race/ethnicity) Concern for multiple testing (analyzed two correlated outcomes [BMI, weight status] across many types of foods, increasing chance of false-positives Cohort data collected over a long interval (1999-2009) Limited generalizability of CFB (i.e., animal blood is not representative of CFB in the U.S.) and due to population</p>

	Feeding practices: X (BF, timing of other CFB) Birth size: X (Birth weight) Gestational age: X Other: Maternal menarcheal age, type of delivery, maternal BMI, maternal occupation, weight gain by 3mo, age of other children	having very low prevalence of obesity (<2%)
<b>Retrospective cohort studies</b>		
<b>Burdette, 2006</b> Retrospective Cohort Study; United States <u><b>Sample Size:</b></u> Baseline N: 372 Analytic N: 313 Attrition: ~16% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR <u><b>Sex:</b></u> 47% Female <u><b>Race/Ethnicity:</b></u> 80% White; 20% Black Parents either both black or both white <u><b>Background Diet:</b></u> 25% never BF; 35% EBF for 4mo; 28% BF for <6mo; 25% BF 6mo-1y; 31% BF>1y	<u><b>Intervention/Exposure:</b></u> Age of CFB introduction: >4mo <b>Age:</b> 3y <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Maternal report <u><b>Outcomes:</b></u> Weight status, Body Composition <b>Age:</b> 5y <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight status: prevalence of BMI ≥85th %tile Body composition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fat-free mass, fat mass, and % body fat (DXA)</li> <li>• BMI, BMI %tile, BMI z-score: calculated via measured height and weight, 2000 CDC growth charts (weight/height: measured twice via digital scale and stadiometer)</li> </ul> <u><b>Confounders accounted for:</b></u> Education: X SES: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Race/ethnicity: X Birth size: X Other: Fat-free mass; Smoking; SNAP enrollment; maternal obesity and diabetes status, marital status	<u><b>Limitations:</b></u> Cannot determine whether groups differed at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Non-validated measures used to assess infant feeding data; Did not adjust for potential key confounders of feeding practices and gestational age
<b>Nested case-control/case-control studies</b>		

<p><b>Bammann, 2014</b> Nested Case-Control Study; 8 European countries: Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Spain and Sweden</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 1024 Analytic N: 1024 Attrition: N/A Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: Yes; OR 1.6+ can be detected at 90% power, two-sided p=0.05</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 50.3% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p> <p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> NR</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction:&lt;4mo CFB: cereals, meat, vegetables or fruits</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 2-9y</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Caregiver report</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status (Obesity)</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 2-9y</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight status: risk of obesity based on IOTF categories; BMI calculated from measured weight (electronic scale) and length stadiometer</p> <p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X Sex: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X Other: Country; Parent BMI; C-section; Smoking; Gestational weight gain;</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Cannot determine whether outcome assessors were blinded; Cannot determined validity/reliability of outcome assessment; Did not adjust for key confounders (SES, race/ethnicity, maternal age; gestational age) Adjusted for maternal BMI which accounts for maternal age</p>
<p><b>Gungor, 2010</b> Case-Control Study; U.S.</p> <p><b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 129 Analytic N: 129 (N: 70 controls vs. N: 32 cases; N: 27 not at risk) Attrition: 0% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: N/A</p> <p><b><u>Sex:</u></b> 54.3% Female</p> <p><b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: Continuous, mo</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 1wk, 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 24mo</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Caregiver report via clinical record</p> <p><b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status</p> <p><b>Age:</b> ~6.63y (SD: 0.62)</p> <p><b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight, length: measured nude on digital scale to 0.01kg and stadiometer to 0.1cm by trained nurses and recorded Weight status: overweight defined by age- and sex-specific BMI <math>\geq</math> 85th percentile at ages 6, 7, 8y by CDC, 2000 standards</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar on baseline characteristics (i.e., other data from baseline 1 wk-24mo NR - maternal age; SES; race/ethnicity); Cannot determine reliability/validity of IV/Exposure (parental feeding data) from clinical records at ages 1wk, and 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 24mo; Weight status outcomes from recorded weight/height (measured via trained nurses) between 6-8y; Did not adjust for potential key confounders (maternal age; SES; race/ethnicity); Other potential</p>

<p><b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> 31% EBF <math>\geq</math> 6mo; mean BF duration 4.57mo (SD: 5.37)</p>	<p><b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Education: X Sex: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X Gestational age: X Other: Maternal and Paternal education; Parity; Earlier weight gain at multiple intervals was included in the model from 0-6mo; 6-12mo; 12-18mo; 18-24mo; 0-24mo</p>	<p>confounders included in analyses as concurrent exposures showed differences between resilient vs. overweight (both parental education; EBF; earlier weight gain intervals differed bn groups) Small sample size (N:102 analyzed)</p>
<p><b>Hui, 2003</b> Case-Control Study; China <b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Baseline N: 386 Analytic N: 343 Attrition: 11% Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR  <b><u>Sex:</u></b> 52% Female <b><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></b> NR <b><u>Background Diet:</u></b> OW: 71.5% never BF; 10.8% ever BF; 17.7% BF <math>\geq</math> 3mo MW: 70.5% never BF; 18% ever BF; 11.5% BF <math>\geq</math> 3mo NW: 68.5% never BF; 19.2% ever BF; 12.3% BF <math>\geq</math> 3mo</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;4mo (Y/N) <b><u>Age:</u></b> 6-7y <b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Caregiver questionnaire and interview; Diet record, 3d <b><u>Outcomes:</u></b> Weight status <b><u>Age:</u></b> 6-7y <b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Weight status: % based on derived BMI percentile: overweight group (92<sup>nd</sup>), normal middle-weight group (45<sup>th</sup>–55<sup>th</sup>), and normal low-weight group (&lt;8<sup>th</sup>) <b><u>Confounders accounted for:</u></b> Other: parental obesity</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine whether groups were similar at baseline; Cannot determine validity/reliability of outcome assessment; Did not adjust for potential key confounders (education, SES, sex, maternal age, race/ethnicity, birth size, or gestational age) Appears they treated IV separately therefore collinearity is not a concern but key confounders were not adjusted for and appeared to differ between groups</p>
<p><b>Zhou, 2011</b> Case-Control Study; China <b><u>Sample Size:</u></b> Cases: 81 Controls: 81 Attrition: N/A</p>	<p><b><u>Intervention/Exposure:</u></b> Age of CFB introduction: &lt;4, 4-6, &gt;6mo <b><u>Age:</u></b> 3-6y <b><u>Assessment Methods:</u></b> Parent questionnaire</p>	<p><b><u>Limitations:</u></b> Cannot determine if groups were similar at baseline on key characteristics; Did not use valid/reliable measures to assess outcomes (growth measures taken</p>

Power Analysis and Sufficient Sample Size: NR <u><b>Sex:</b></u> NR <u><b>Race/Ethnicity:</b></u> NR <u><b>Background Diet:</b></u> NR	<u><b>Outcomes:</b></u> Weight status <b>Age:</b> 3-6y <b>Assessment Methods:</b> Weight status: risk of obese vs. healthy weight based on age- and sex- specific BMI from IOTF categories, calculated using weight, height from kindergarten records <u><b>Confounders accounted for:</b></u> Education: X SES: X Sex: X Maternal age: X Feeding practices: X Birth size: X (Birth weight) Gestational age: X Other: Siblings, delivery mode, birth injuries, fetal education, pregnancy complications, small meal after kindergarten, sleep time, sports, pickiness, fast f	from school records); Did not adjust for potential key confounders (race/ethnicity) Small sample size; Cannot rule out reverse causality
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